

Last Call! Rush Subscriptions. Offer Closes Midnight, March 31



"And they cried, The Sword of the Lord, and of Gideon." Judges 7:20

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An Independent Christian Weekly, Standing for the Verbal Inspiration of the Bible, the Deity of Christ, His Blood Atonement, Salvation by Faith, New Testament Soul Winning and the Premillennial Return of Christ. Opposes Modernism, Worldliness and Formalism.

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10 REASONS Why I Believe the BIBLE Is THE WORD OF GOD

By R. A. Torrey

I was brought up to believe that the Bible was the Word of God. In early life I accepted it as such upon the authority of my parents, and never gave the question any serious thought. But later in life my faith in the Bible was utterly shattered through the influence of the writings of a very celebrated, scholarly and brilliant skeptic. I found myself face to face with question, *Why* do you believe the Bible is the Word of God?

I had no satisfactory answer. I determined to go to the bottom of this question. If satisfactory proof could not be found that the Bible was God's Word I would give the whole thing up, cost what it might. If satisfactory proof could be found that the Bible was God's Word I would take my stand upon cost what it might. I doubtless had many friends who could have answered the question satisfactorily, but I was unwilling to confide in them the struggle that was going on in my own heart; so I sought help from God and from books, and, after much painful study and thought, came out of the darkness of skepticism into the broad daylight of faith and certainty that the Bible from beginning to end is God's Word. The following pages are largely the outcome of that experience of conflict and final victory. I will give ten reasons why I believe the Bible is the Word of God.

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Dr. R. A. Torrey

Prize Winner in Second Annual \$1,000 Evangelistic Sermon Contest



By Rev. Hugh F. Pyle, Pastor,
Cove Baptist Church, Panama City, Florida
Coming soon to the Sword as Evangelistic Asst. to Dr. Rice

"For we must needs die, and are as water spilt on the ground, which cannot be gathered up again..."—II Sam. 14:14.

"Water spilt on the ground which cannot be gathered up again!" In my mind I picture one tortured with parching thirst on some glaring Sahara, the sun burning and blistering! One cool, clear drink of water stands in the way of inevitable death from thirst! As the cup is tilted to the lips, there is a slip of the hand and the cup falls to the ground, the water spilling out onto the sand. There is a frantic scramble to save the water, to scoop it into the cup once more, but, alas, it is too late! The water, spilt on the ground, cannot be gathered up again. Fatal carelessness!

Time Dies Like That
Time, like water spilt on the

ground, cannot be gathered up again! The sands in the hour glass run low. The clock that strikes the midnight hour tonight will never strike on the same day again. The sun that goes down over your town tonight will never set on the same day again; for time, like water spilt on the ground, can never be gathered up again!

So God says to Christians, "Redeeming the time, because the days are evil" (Eph. 5:16). Christians should know what time it is! "...that, knowing the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep; for now is our salvation nearer—that when we believed" (Rom. 13:11).

Christian, guard those hours! It is a sin to kill time! The time is short! The time to serve Christ is now! The time to give for the cause of Christ is now! The time to win souls is now!

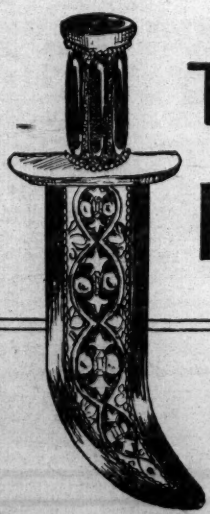
Someone says, "Well, Preacher, I'd really like to do more. I wish I had the time to pray more and visit more and witness for Christ more than I do, but, I just don't have time!" Well, I'll tell you what to do. Why don't you recall yesterday's hours? Just gather up



Rev. Hugh F. Pyle

those hours wasted yesterday, the hours frittered away with a worthless novel last week, the hours squandered on foolishness the week before that, and bring all those hours together, and use them for the Lord! You say, "Preacher, it can't be done!" That's right, it can't be done; for time, like water spilt on the ground, cannot be

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THE DAGGER OF KING ABDULLAH

By Evangelist Bill Rice
Associate Editor

It was just before 9 o'clock in the morning when my taxi arrived at the King's palace just outside the old walled city of Jerusalem. A smartly uniformed officer of the famous Arab Legion opened the taxi door, smiled and invited me to get out. A dignified-looking man, dressed in European clothing, stepped forward to shake my hand and introduced himself as the Prime Minister of Jordan. Lining the broad steps that led up to the porch of the palace were legionnaires, their uniforms neatly pressed, their shoes brightly polished, the brass buttons and belt buckles gleaming. Each one held his rifle, with bayonet attached, rigidly before him as we walked up the steps to the palace.

Passing through the door, we entered into a room where I was introduced to more dignitaries—the mayor of Jerusalem, officers of the Arab Legion, and the man who was to be the interpreter for my visit with the King. Here, too, I was given simple instructions on how to act before the monarch. (Keep your coat buttoned, don't cross your legs, etc.) Then, accompanied by the Prime Minister, the interpreter, and an officer, I was ushered into a large room to meet the King.

His Majesty, King Abdullah Ibn Al Hussain, was known to the Arab world as "the bearded lion of Judah." During the First World War, he had been a brilliant commander of Arab forces. During the intervening years, he had led an active life. He loved adventure, was an excellent horseman, a crack shot with a pistol, was equally fearless leading his desert warriors into battle or in personal combat. He was greatly loved by

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This Is It!

Last Reminder of the Special Subscription Offer Which Closes Midnight, March 31. Get Your Subscriptions in, Mailed and Postmarked Not Later Than March 31. Four or More Subscriptions, \$1.50 Per Year (50c Additional for Canadian and Foreign Subs.)

By Evangelist John R. Rice

"Therefore we ought to give the more earnest heed to the things which we have heard, lest at any time we should let them slip."—Heb. 2:1.

This issue of THE SWORD OF THE LORD is the last issue in March. Before another Friday rolls around, the deadline for THE SWORD OF THE LORD subscription campaign, midnight, March 31, will have passed. This is our last chance to urge you to send subscriptions at once.

We ask that every reader possible will renew his own subscription at the remarkable low rates now in effect. We ask that every one who can send subscriptions for others—three subscriptions for \$5, four or more yearly subscrip-

tions at \$1.50 each. (50c a year additional for Canadian and foreign subscriptions.) The offer is good for both new and renewal subscriptions.

For ten or more subscriptions mailed before midnight, March 31, we will send free a copy of the editor's big new book, *All About Christian Giving*, 174 pages, 13 chapters paper bound.

Get your subscription off today! Do not fail us and do not fail the Lord!

See Inside

MIRACLES OF SCIENCE

NELS FERRE, AN INFIDEL MARXIST, SOCIALIST FOR LONG YEARS

PREACHING—POWER—PROMOTION

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MAKE IT A DOUBLE BLESSING

EDITOR'S NOTES

For Young People . . .

Miracles of Science

By the late Arthur I. Brown, M.D.

Enthralling and Curious Facts of Nature Showing the Miraculous Scientific Evidences of God's Hand in Creation. 39 Wonderful Chapters.

CHAPTER XX

Plant Chemists and Flowers that Advertise

We shall think today of the wonder-working chlorophyll chemists in the green leaf. This chemical laboratory performs amazing feats of skill, its chief business being to make starch for plant food. What remarkable food this is! From it comes not only wood, but cork, and the tender petals of flowers, the flesh of fruits, and the widest variety of gums, oils, essences, and perfumes.

These hard-working leaves accomplish an invaluable service to mankind, a service which has been previously mentioned: the imprisoning of the deadly carbonic acid gas and the releasing of oxygen which purifies and renovates the atmosphere. All this machinery is compressed between the very thin leaf walls.

Let us examine a leaf. We find that the leafy skeleton is divided into a network of woody threads. These threads or veins connect with larger ones in the leaf-stalk, and these in turn are joined to veins in the branch.

Filling in the spaces between the network, is a green pulp, somewhat resembling a honeycomb. It is made up of a row of cells, each cell a little bag of transparent skin, filled with a colorless jelly.

This jelly is itself clear, but is so full of floating particles of ~~vidua~~ ^{chlorophyll} that the entire leaf has this bright color. These green specks are the chlorophyll chemists. They are the machinery of the laboratory. Over this network of cells there is a transparent leaf-skin. The purpose of this skin is to prevent the sun from drying up the juices in the leaf. So smooth and polished is the leaf skin of most leaves that they shed water like tiny umbrellas.

The water, which is constantly rising from below through the roots, must evaporate easily; otherwise the starch factory would soon overflow. So, to aid in evaporation, the under sides of the leaves have thousands of wide-open mouths, little pores or stomata, for the easy passage of air and vapor. Inside every leaf, then, proceed all the complex activities which make life possible.

The name which is attached to

these operations of the leaf is rather a large one, photosynthesis. It means that when sunlight falls upon the green plant, the chlorophyll particles snatch the rays, which supply them with energy, and by some unknown sleight-of-hand they combine the carbon dioxide, which comes to them through the air, with the water which arrives chiefly from the roots, thus bringing into being sugars and starches. These sugars and starches are carbohydrate foods, and later, part of these are changed by the plants into fats and proteins. Fats, like starches and sugars, are composed only of oxygen, hydrogen and carbon. Proteins consist of these three elements, combined with nitrogen, sulphur, iron, potassium, and many other elements.

So, we can understand something of His vast business of photosynthesis. We sum up the process. The leaves have, as their source of energy, the sun. The raw materials used are soil, water and carbon dioxide from the air. The manufacturing plant is made up of leaves and the bark of young stems. The operating machines or the skilled chemists are the thousands of chlorophyll bodies. The transportation system within the factory is made up of the intricate series of vascular bundles for the passage of fluids up and down. The product is carbohydrates, chiefly starch and sugar. The by-product is oxygen which is thrown off and used by mankind. In all this we observe a system so complicated and exact that the mind of man is baffled by the mystery of it.

Before plants can be fertilized and able to propagate themselves, the pollen dust must reach the pistil which lies at the bottom of

the flower. It is the business of the pistils to form seeds, and to nourish and shelter them until they are ready to be sent out to the world, but this cannot be done until the pollen reaches its destination. When the pollen dust falls on the sticky stigma, it is firmly held. This tiny speck of pollen dust now bores a tube down inside the style and enters the ovary. Then, a small bit of protoplasm slips down the pollen tube and mixes with the substance in the little seed beginning. Immediately the baby seed is formed and begins to grow.

God devised a curious and altogether marvelous plan whereby pollen dust would be carried to the proper destination and reach its appointed place safely. He called upon the insect world to undertake the job. The bees are the chief agents, and naturally, the Creator, wishing to bring them to the flowers, gave the flowers color and fragrance as definite attractions, along with a tiny drop of sweet fluid, which would reward their visit to the bottom of the flower. In return for the flowers' nectar, the bees thus act as faithful messengers, carrying the pollen from flower to flower.

The more we look into blossoms, the more we realize how wisely this business has been planned. If all the trees depending on insects, blossomed at once, some would certainly be neglected. And so it is, there is a definite and regular order. On one tree, the blossoms are just peeping forth; on another the seeds are set; still another has both fruit and seed fluttering here and there; a fourth is in the full glory of leaf foliage with blossom time and seed-sowing all but forgotten. Here again is design.

Some flowers and plants have advertising cards or signs which insects have no difficulty in reading. The red clover blossom is made up of quite a number of separate parts, each known as a floret. The bees know which florets contain nectar; and this is how they know it. If one of the florets has been drained and the seed set, the seed vessel closes over, and the floret turns brown and hangs downward. This brown signal says, "No admittance," and the bee promptly passes along to another. When all the florets in a head have been fertilized, the head is brown and crumpled, endeavoring to look as unattractive as possible to such enemies as might suspect the presence of the little seed-treasures at the bottom of the florets, and feast upon them.

It seems to be the perfume of the flowers rather than the color which attracts the insects. These insects have a keen sense of smell—much keener than their vision—and can detect odors quite imperceptible to us.

Floral structures seem to determine what type of creature can be accommodated. In regions where the trumpet vine flaunts its orange bloom, the humming bird will almost stand on its head in the horn; some of the flowers are pollinated by slugs; aquatic plants have water-borne pollen. Flowers which bloom at night are nearly always white and sweet scented. Red, violet, and blue are the colors which are most attractive to bees and butterflies. Dull yellow, brownish, and dark purple flowers seem to depend largely on the visits of flies.

All these interesting facts show that wherever we touch plant life we are near to the great Creator. Every individual plant, and vegetable, and tree is the special work of God. They neither weave, nor spin, nor paint themselves. Beholding them, we see God, Himself patiently and unremittently at work. He is present with every flower that springs up in the garden, or the field, or the wilderness, and gives to it with His own hand every one of its leaves, and every tint that contributes to the beauty of its coloring. He presides over it from the first impulse of germination to the last moment of fading existence.

How natural then for us to believe that, if He thus cares for each blade of grass, much more will He care for those whom He has created in His own image. Some of you listening today are in trouble. It may be that bereavement has come to your home and a loved one has been taken. You prayed God to spare that life, and you are disappointed and perhaps



God devised a curious and altogether marvelous plan whereby pollen dust would be carried to the proper destination.

a bit rebellious. You are tempted to turn away from God because this sorrow has been permitted. Do not forget the lesson we tried to learn the other day, that "whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom he receiveth."

I have discovered that the people who go through life without trouble and sorrow usually are not the ones who have fine and attractive characters. It takes the crises of life to bring us close to the Father's arms. So, whatever your condition, know that God never makes a mistake.

Every green thing that springs out of the ground has something to say to us. All the leaves of the forest join in one general murmur to repeat in our ears the prophet's warning, "We do all fade as a leaf." We are apt to thrust this truth out of our minds, but in order that we may not forget, every autumn when the fading-time comes, God spreads before us on plain and hillside, a great parable in which our own decay and death are pictorially represented so vividly that all may read and

reflect. Someone has put it like this:

*Like leaves on trees the race of man is found,
Now green in youth, now withered on the ground;
Another race the following age supplies;*

They fall successive, and successive rise;

So, generations in their course decay;

So flourish these, when those have passed away.

When you and I reach the end of the trail, what will it be—endless joy with Christ or eternal punishment with the lost? I hope no one listening today will fail to take advantage of God's offer of a free and perfect and present salvation.

Why hesitate any longer? Why not exercise your will, break away from that indecision, and say to Jesus Christ, "I'm taking Thee as my Saviour." If you will, a glorious surprise awaits you.

(From the book, MIRACLES OF SCIENCE, now out of print. No more copies available.)

The Dagger of Abdullah

(Continued from page 1)

his brave legionnaires who gladly fought against the Axis Powers in the Second World War when England stood alone among the great powers of the world.

I walked across the room to shake his hand.

Abdullah was well built and looked to be about fifty years old. (Actually, he was about twenty years older than that.) He was wearing the typical Arab head-dress—a kind of turban with *kafiea* flowing down the back of his neck to his shoulders. His eyes were keen and friendly, his brown beard close cropped. He was wearing a brown robe or cloak around his shoulders. His brown trousers were neatly tucked into highly-polished boots. On a belt around his waist, he wore a heavy dagger in a silver sheath—the dagger of Abdullah! My eyes returned to it again and again during the course of our conversation.

That it was a typically curved dagger was evident from the design of the heavy silver sheath. Both the sheath and the handle were decorated with gold inlays and precious stones. The blade, doubtless, was of finest tool steel and razor sharp. The dagger was worn directly in front of his body where we usually wear our belt buckles. Thus the dagger was easily accessible to either his right or left hand.

But the most astonishing thing about this dagger was that it was used only as an ornament—not as a weapon. Abdullah had long since ordered the keen blade to be welded into the silver sheath in

such a way that the blade could never again be drawn from the scabbard! And this, perhaps, was to cost him his life. Although neither he nor I had the faintest inkling of it, he was shortly to die at the hand of a cowardly assassin. For it was only a few weeks later that he went to the Mosque of Omar, built on the site of Solomon's temple, to pray and as he was about to enter the Mosque, a man who had been hidden behind one of the massive doors stepped out and fired point blank at the King who fell dead before the door.

And so died Abdullah, direct descendant of the prophet Mohammed through his daughter Fatima. A gallant warrior, who had faced death again and again in a life of adventure, at last met death at the hands of an assassin. And yet, ironically, Abdullah was armed when he met death. On his right hip he carried the snub-nosed colt revolver—but the gun was strapped into the holster! And on his belt he carried the deadly dagger in the silver sheath—but the blade was welded in the scabbard and could not be drawn! Yes, within reach of either hand was a dagger that conceivably could have saved his life. But he, himself, had made this weapon unavailable. As his body fell before the door of the Mosque, there sparkled in the sunshine the beautiful gems adorning the gold and silver dagger at the dead monarch's waist, a dagger that had been worn as an ornament only. A dagger that could not save Abdullah's life because, although accessible it was not available, was not usable, could not be withdrawn. What irony that Abdullah died when within easy reach of either hand was a keen dagger that, could it have been used, might have saved his life!

Used as an ornament, the dagger—even the mighty dagger of Abdullah—could not save his life.

A Sword For You

In a very real sense, I believe THE SWORD OF THE LORD may be likened to the dagger of Abdullah. THE SWORD OF THE LORD is clearly an outstanding Gospel paper. No common paper is this but one of tried and true steel made sharp by the Word of God! It is made valuable by the writings of God's most precious jewels, for the greatest preachers and Bible teachers who live today or who

(Continued on page 3)



AMERICA'S OUTSTANDING REVIVAL WEEKLY

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Evangelist Bill Rice

Deeds, Not Words, Prove Loyalty to Christ. Rush Subscriptions Now!

Nels Ferre, An Infidel Marxist, Socialist For Long Years

A Noble, Bible-Believing Pastor Writes Defending Southern Baptist Seminary, Thinks Ferre Was Conservative Before 1947. The Editor Shows Ferre Background Wholly Modernistic, That He in Print Attacked Orthodox Theology, Denied Virgin Birth and Deity of Christ, Denied the Reliability of the Bible, Espoused Marxian Socialism and Pacifism, Attacked American Free Enterprise in Books Published 1942, 1943, Long Before Used in Southern Baptist Seminary

By Editor John R. Rice

We have had many letters concerning recent exposes of the infidelity of Dr. Nels F. S. Ferre of the Vanderbilt University School of Religion. Most of the letters were favorable.

Some good men felt that articles in THE SWORD OF THE LORD exposing Ferre reflected unduly on the Southern Baptist Seminary at Louisville, which had Dr. Ferre give the Gay Lectures in 1947.

One of the most sensible letters which we have received was from Dr. Alvin G. Hause, pastor of Bales Baptist Church, Kansas City, Missouri. Dr. Hause is a noble good man, a fundamental Bible-believer, a greatly trusted denominational leader. He requested that his letter be published and we are glad to publish it. In this matter he is an honest good spokesman of many noble men who want no irresponsible attack on Christian institutions and who, we are sure, honestly want to know the truth and intend to stand firmly for Christ and the Bible, as well as to support sound Christian institutions.

Because the editor finds that thousands of good Christians have not been aware of the extent of Dr. Ferre's unbelief and unAmericanism, he asks the reader to patiently examine the evidence given here.

Letter From Dr. Alvin G. Hause, Pastor Bales Baptist Church Kansas City, Missouri

February 27, 1954

Dr. John R. Rice, Editor,
THE SWORD OF THE LORD
Wheaton, Ill.

Dear Dr. Rice:

In Friday, January 22, 1954 issue of THE SWORD OF THE LORD you had an article headed "WHICH WAY, SOUTHERN BAPTISTS?" You prefaced the article by Dr. Bob Ketcham with these words: "Bible-believing Christians everywhere have been deeply concerned because the world's worst modernists have been invited to special lectures at some Southern Bap-

tist colleges and seminaries, their books sold and recommended in Southern Baptist bookstores," etc. "Dr. Nels Ferre was special guest invited to deliver the Gay Lectures to the Southern Baptist Seminary."

This disturbed me not a little and when I read Ferre's books a great deal. I couldn't believe that the Southern Baptist Seminary in Louisville, Ky., had gone modernist and so I wrote to find out when and what reaction Ferre's lectures had on the faculty and administration when he was there in 1947. I had read in Mr. Raymond Waugh's book in which he attacks the seminary most severely and charged that: "The many words of praise which issued from the seminary faculty and administration prove the contention that they were with him in most everything he said." p. 102. This was said about the Gay lectures given to the Seminary in 1947 by Ferre.

However, I find that this charge is not true. In a letter before me from Dr. Dale Moody of Southern Seminary he says: "The lectures delivered here were published as *Pillars of Faith* (1948). In the October, 1948, issue of the REVIEW AND EXPOSITOR, p. 462, I spoke of his statement: 'God wants to write a new and even better Scriptures' as a reckless statement. The lectures provoked Dr. Fuller and others more than once. In fact there was much discussion and no little heated controversy going on behind the scenes even before Dr. Fuller denounced him in public. Before the week was ended Dr. Fuller was very perturbed and

several times denounced Ferre before the audiences. I personally discussed the affair with Dr. Fuller many times, and Dr. Fuller's disgust with Ferre did not diminish with time. It became clear to most of us that Ferre was slipping away from the central core of evangelical Christianity, and this was a great disappointment."

Dr. Moody quoted his review of Ferre's book *The Christian Understanding of God* (1951) which appeared in the REVIEW AND EXPOSITOR, April, 1953. This you can read for yourself by getting a copy of the above publication of the seminary. I will say that it is as strong as any condemnation I have read of Ferre's philosophy.

Dr. Moody also sent to me a copy of a review of Ferre's latest book *The Sun And The Umbrella* (1953), which will be printed in a forthcoming issue of the REVIEW AND EXPOSITOR. This review will be published by Dr. Wayne E. Ward, a colleague in the Department of Christian Theology with Dr. Moody. I must say, Dr. Rice, that this review is as caustic and as bitter, and rightfully so, as your present series of articles on this infidelistic book of Nels F. S. Ferre.

Also, we should keep in mind that when Ferre gave those lectures in 1947 he was accepted and respected by conservatives everywhere. As late as September 1, 1948, Dr. Moody writes me "Dr. Carl F. H. Henry mentions Ferre in the company with Torwald Bender of North American Seminary, Lorraine Boettner, Edward J. Carnell of Fuller Seminary, Bernard Ramm of Bible Institute of Los Angeles, Wm. Childs Robinson of Columbia Seminary, and Cornelius Van Til of Westminster Seminary. As you know, these men are well-known conservative men.

In view of all Dr. Moody says in his letter to me and my investigation of the case, I thoroughly agree with him when he closes his letter thus: "This should be sufficient proof that members of Southern Seminary faculty have been Ferre's first, most frequent, and most caustic critics. The effort to attach his ideas on us is gossip, slander, and the works of a reprobate mind (Romans 1:28f)."

In a P. S. Dr. Moody further says: "My student, Emil Williams, has written a digest of a Th.M. thesis he is doing under my direction. The work is not yet complete, but he gave the enclosed summary that may be useful. His work when completed will be a discerning and devastating analysis of Ferre's false presuppositions."

I have carefully read this review and what Dr. Moody says is absolutely true. Nothing that you or I could write or anyone else about Ferre's philosophy and infidelity could be brought to light more than this thesis will do.

I am sure, Dr. Rice, that you will want to clear the Southern Seminary of such false charges as are being made about it and that you will gladly defend the name and memory of a man like Dr. Fuller who is now dead and cannot defend himself. I am not a graduate of Southern Seminary but of the Central Seminary here in Kansas City, Kansas, and I am only interested in seeing that justice is done in this important matter.

I know that you would not intentionally deceive your readers and your hearers and I am sure that you will print this letter or parts of it to give the other side of the case.

Film Review

By Evangelist Bill Rice

"Basket of Blessing"

Refreshingly different and beautifully made, this is one of the finest short Gospel films I have ever seen in my life. Here is the story of a little boy with a delightful lisp whose older brother does not believe a story of Jesus feeding the five thousand and having twelve baskets full left over. Big brother hears the younger lad pray for him that night just before he falls asleep, and then he dreams his younger brother is the

As a matter of fact if you do not do so, I respectfully request that your paper which I value very much and read with profit many times, be canceled and not sent to our church as it now is being done. I place the paper every week in our church library but do not care to do so unless I think it is fair and just in all things.

May the Lord lead you in this matter and may the Holy Spirit continue to use you for the defense of the faith once for all delivered to the saints. For thirty-six years I have been defending the faith and the pre-millennial coming of our Lord in this city and shall continue to do so until the day of my death.

Fraternally yours,

(Signed) Alvin G. Hause

The Editor's Answer

March 9, 1954

Dr. Alvin G. Hause
Bales Baptist Church
12th Street at Bales Avenue
Kansas City 1, Missouri

My Dear Dr. Hause:

I have your letter of February 27 before me. I have gone over it very carefully, and am taking time for an honest and careful answer, such as you deserve.

I assure you, Brother Hause, that your real concern about the Southern Baptist Seminary in Louisville was justified when you read Ferre's books. However, I suggest that to write one member of the faculty who himself is under fire, and to go by one letter of his, as if that were an adequate investigation of the matter, and on that basis of one letter by a man himself under suspicion, for you to assume that THE SWORD OF THE

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lad in the Bible story. Complete with Bible costumes, you see the little boy offer his little lunch of loaves and fishes to the Lord Jesus. The Master receives the gift, breaks it, blesses it, and the multitude is fed. The dream leads to the boy's conversion.

Evangel Films has produced a number of splendid sound films, including "Missing Christians," "Contrary Winds," "Mother and Home," etc. This brief 11 minute film is, in my judgment, second only to the 50 minute feature film, "Missing Christians." It is certainly one of the finest short films I have ever seen, and its appeal will be almost as much for adults as it is for children and young people.

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The Dagger of Abdullah

(Continued from page 2)

have ever lived write for THE SWORD OF THE LORD. The finest Christian statesmen, the keenest Christian apologists, the most fervent soul-winning evangelists, the most powerful preachers of our day, all present the Word of God through the pages of this powerful SWORD. Yes, this is a sword with a keener blade than Abdullah's dagger, a sword that you can use to defend yourself and others from the wicked attacks of Satan whose aim is the assassination of your church, your life, and your soul together with the utter ruin of all those you love and hold dear.

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THE SWORD OF THE LORD is a keen defense against the encroaching forces of modernism. Again and again THE SWORD OF THE LORD has rightly defended the fundamentals of the faith against those who would destroy it.

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(Continued on page 4)



King Abdullah, picture taken on the balcony of his palace by Evangelist Bill Rice in 1951.

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Preaching ~ Power ~ Promotion



"... the word of the Lord. . . Not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, saith the Lord of hosts."—Zech. 4:6

By Dr. D. A. (Scotchie) McCall
Minister of Revival Promotion,
Sword of the Lord Foundation

I. Good For Evangelism

The going of Dr. Rice in part-time service to Temple Schools' Department of Evangelism will greatly strengthen that department. It will enlarge the ministry of Dr. Rice as he closely contacts many preacher boys and other leaders. Dr. Rice is a real scholar, and Temple Schools are filling a large place in Christian leadership.

II. Encouragement For You

I have recently written a couple of rather personal paragraphs for this column along the line of church problems and growth. For two very good reasons I felt led to do this.

First, over the last few months I have seen church after church beset with real internal problems that tested the leadership of pastors and dissipated the energies of the people. Sin of one sort and the other simply prevented the blessings of God from flowing in revival. One time it would be immorality, again it would be some willful man (usually) who crowded out the leadership of the Spirit and intruded his will instead. Again, someone made an issue of the Bible as the Word of God. Yet again, a man couldn't have his way so during the revival he left the church in the most officious sort of way.

Secondly, I have found younger pastors (and some older ones) along the way who just doubted or actually disbelieved the thing could be put over for Christ's sake. They were beaten inside. I was taught that one is never whipped really until he is licked inside.

I wanted to help such pastors and such churches. I have had some tests along that line. When I was willing, and the bulk of the people were willing, God stepped in and did the thing. Doxology!

The most difficult thing is for one to just put self aside and let God have His way.

We have the Bible. Study it. The Bible way will work today as it worked thousands of years ago.

We have the Holy Spirit. He is not dead. He is not off on a vacation. He is powerful and present today as forever.

Read: Isaiah 14, John, chapters 14-16, Acts, chapters 2,5,8,13, 20, Isaiah, chapters 40-52, Ephesians 4, Colossians 3, Romans 8.

Tell it to Jesus. Speak to the people that they go forward. Trust God. Follow the Spirit. Master the Bible way.

III.

As We Went Along

At Galeton, Colorado, we found a fine young pastor family in the W. Y. Moffatts. The work is small but in a real field. Satan had taken away some of the seed—Matt. 13. Some folks were saved, others helped.

At Adams City, Colorado, we found a young and fast-growing church in a place of large opportunity. Pastor Paul Seanor is an alert and spiritual leader with a very fine family. God definitely set forward the work of this church in several ways.

I spoke at Rockmont College chapel and was asked back to speak to the young preachers. We had a good time together.

I visited the Conservative Seminary for a message and Christian fellowship. It is in a field of real prospects.

A day of fellowship and refreshment was enjoyed in a mountain camp. Conservative pastors were the participants. Dr. Ted Anderson of Salem, Oregon, blessed our hearts in Him!

Again, I spoke practically to these pastors in their monthly meeting at Edgewater Baptist Church.

I had two very enjoyable visits with the Bible college at Beth Eden Baptist Church. Dr. Sam Bradford, pastor, has led the church out in this very worthy project. Someday soon I look for this college to be a "peak" for Him in all that great West as it trains leaders for Him!

IV. Things to Remember

1. You can get and give Sword subscriptions every week or month of the year and thus get out the Gospel nearby, as well as to the far-flung places of the earth.

2. You can every week or month send larger or smaller sums of monies for the Sword Building Fund. In this you will be sharing in a permanent home for this work.

3. You can pray about and help in support of a great radio ministry for Dr. Rice.

4. You can order and distribute hundreds and thousands of Dr. Rice's tract on "What Must I Do to Be Saved?"

5. You can order good books, read them, and encourage others, lost and saved, to read Christian books.

6. You can join the Book Club.

7. You can be the best Christian somebody knows.

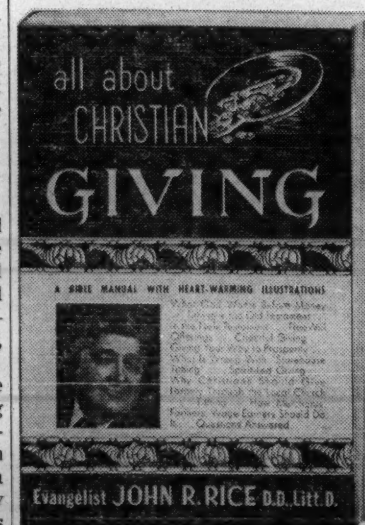
V.

Preach the Word

God called me to preach the Gospel. God called me to help those who need help. God called me to help Him build His church. God called me to teach His Word. God called me to get people to give His money to His work. God called me—that is enough for me!

FREE!

Until March 31



This book, *All About Christian Giving*, 174 pages, 13 chapters, paper bound, absolutely free with ten or more yearly subscriptions to THE SWORD OF THE LORD—\$1.50 per year in the U. S. or to our Armed Services; \$2 per year in Canada and foreign countries. Rush your subscriptions—either new or renewal. Must be postmarked not later than midnight, March 31. Address: Sword of the Lord, Wheaton, Illinois.

The Dagger of Abdullah

(Continued from page 3)

advertisement of the New Testament by mistake, before the whole Bible was published and before numerous changes made the New Testament translation even worse.) THE SWORD OF THE LORD at once took the lead in exposing the devilish work of modernists, the slanting of the translation by the enemies of Christ with the deliberate intension of discounting the fundamentals of the faith, including the deity of Christ, His virgin birth, and the inspiration of the Scriptures. I have read numerous pamphlets and sermons exposing this wicked translation, but have never read anything nor heard any speaker discuss anything of real consequence that has not appeared in the columns of THE SWORD.

In the pages of THE SWORD has appeared, chapter by chapter, *Methodism And The Bible*, that opened the eyes of literally thousands of Methodists to the dangerous trend away from God and the Bible that so many Methodist churches have taken.

When Nels Ferre wrote his nefarious, modernist book, *The Sun And The Umbrella*, THE SWORD OF THE LORD exposed this infidel, and doubtless thousands of eyes were opened to the truth about this sneaking wolf who has been masquerading as a sheep. THE SWORD has constantly upheld the inspiration of the Scriptures, the virgin birth, the deity of Christ, the blood atonement, etc.

Furthermore, THE SWORD, years ago, exposed the Federal Council of the Churches of Christ of America (now the National Council) urging honest Christian people to have nothing to do with this rank, atheistic, modernistic organization. We urged individuals and churches to withdraw every dime of support from this wicked organization.

Yes, THE SWORD is a mighty weapon to defend you and your loved ones against modernism. And this weapon is easily within your reach.

Indifference

Indifference is a greater destroyer of our churches even than modernism, for a church will probably never go modernistic until it has first become cold, indifferent and dead. Again and again I receive revival invitations from pastors who write, "Ours is the only Bible-believing church in the entire city—all of the rest are modernistic," or words to that effect. Usually, however, this is not actually true. As a rule, I find that pastors often label other churches as having turned modernistic when in reality the other churches are simply dead. It is not that they no longer believe the Bible—it is simply that they no longer care! Many churches no longer have evening services because they no longer care about winning souls. Many churches no longer have prayer meeting services because there is no conviction in their own cold, indifferent, backslidden hearts that God will hear and answer their prayers. A cold, formal "worship service," with no passion, no tears, and no souls saved—this is the curse of our churches.

And against the encroaching evil of indifference THE SWORD OF THE LORD is a mighty defender, with a constant emphasis on soul winning, prayer, Holy Spirit power, and revival. Week after week there are messages encouraging soul winning and teaching soul winning. Reports are given of revival meetings all across the country. Twelve years ago there were hardly any evangelists in America. I can remember reading articles by nationally-known preachers explaining why the days of mass evangelism were over forever! And there were hardly any interdenominational evangelists. Today there are many; and leading evangelists all over America agree that revivals have come back all over the nation largely due to the influence of THE SWORD OF THE LORD.

Yes, THE SWORD OF THE LORD has given new hope to literally thousands of churches, has stirred multiplied thousands of hearts into soul-winning action. It is a mighty defence against the indifference that deadens and kills the spiritual life of individuals and churches.

And THE SWORD OF THE LORD is easily within the reach of every Christian.

Skepticism

Skepticism has certainly taken a large toll among our young people of high school and college age today. Many teachers of zoology, biology, geology, anthropology and other kindred sciences speak latently about evolution as though it were a proven fact instead of a discredited theory. Learned professors scoff at the biblical story of creation and ridicule the belief that the Bible is God's holy Word, divinely inspired.

How are we going to defend our children against this wicked, satanic attack? Many parents have not had the opportunity of obtaining a high school or college education and feel themselves inferior to the learned (?) professors. When Junior comes home with the news that Professor Know-it-all says the story of Jonah and the whale could not possibly be true, and Sister adds that Dr. Out-of-this-World says it doesn't matter whether Jesus was born of a virgin or not, just so He was a good man—many parents are at a loss to know what to say. Now is the time to unsheathe THE SWORD OF THE LORD!

THE SWORD presents many wonderful sermons and articles by scholarly scientists proving the authenticity of the Scriptures. Harry Rimmer's sermons on "Modern Science and Noah's Ark,"

"Modern Science and Jonah and the Whale," etc., have saved the faith of many a youngster. Dr. Arthur I. Brown's sermons entitled "Miracles of Science" wonderfully show the hand of God throughout our universe today. Dr. John R. Rice's sermon "Is Jesus God," and many, many other articles based on modern science and the Bible present facts—facts that would stand up in the Supreme Court of the United States—of the reliability of the biblical record.

Articles on fulfilled prophecy, the inspiration of the Scriptures, and others too numerous to mention have appeared in the pages of THE SWORD.

Yes, THE SWORD OF THE LORD is a mighty weapon to defend our young people against skepticism today. And, thank God, it is easily accessible to any young person in our land.

Worldliness

As an evangelist who travels in revival campaigns from coast to coast, I well know the dangers of worldliness in our churches and in our homes today. Many preachers take no stand at all against worldliness. Some, having never been

(Continued on page 5)

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The Dagger of Abdullah

(Continued from page 4)

saved themselves, have no conviction against worldliness but rather have an appetite for it and so, of course, do not preach against it. Others, distorted and discouraged, feel it would do no good but would cause animosity against themselves and would probably cause them to lose their job. Still others do not realize the hidden dangers of some worldly activities, and yet others simply do not have the courage to cry out against it. There are still many preachers and individual Christians, however, who not only see the danger of worldliness but take a definite stand against it. And many of these have taken their lead from THE SWORD OF THE LORD for THE SWORD is a mighty defense against worldliness.

No other Christian publication in the world has been able to reach as many people with a clear, sane, scriptural stand against worldly habits and pleasures as THE SWORD. There are plain, sympathetic, common sense articles showing young people the dangers of petting, articles on mixed bathing (the sin is not that men and women go into the water together but the way they are undressed), articles showing the dangers of the modern dance, of card playing and gambling, the sins of modern Hollywood movies. There are clear, logical, biblical, unanswerable articles exposing the wickedness of secret orders, the lodges; articles about tobacco and beer, wine and whisky. And these are not the ravings and rantings of fanatics, but plain, common sense articles based on logic and Scripture, the kind of articles that actually change lives and save churches.

Yes, THE SWORD OF THE LORD is a mighty defender against worldliness. And it is a sword available to all who will use it.

False Cults

False cults and "isms" are sweeping our land. Enemies of the Gospel selling *Watch Towers* on our street corners; Seventh-Day Adventist deceivers posing as "Bible teachers," going from house to house; Christian Science reading rooms; space advertising Roman Catholic literature in magazines—all of them very convincing and all of them as crooked as a dog's hind leg! Literally thousands of homes have been invaded with these and other heresies, for the Devil is the father of liars and the propagators of these false cults follow in their father's footsteps often using the Bible itself to "prove" their false doctrines.

Here, again, is the time to unsheath THE SWORD OF THE LORD. In THE SWORD are exposures of these false cults. Irvine's book, *Heresies Exposed*, was published chapter by chapter in the pages of THE SWORD, and many, many similar works have been published showing from Scripture the wickedness of the "isms" that are sweeping our country. For the truth about Christian Science, Catholicism, Russellism, Seventh-Day Adventism, Mormonism, Spiritism, and Unitarianism read the pages of THE SWORD OF THE LORD.

Yes, THE SWORD is a mighty defense against the false cults that would deceive, if possible, the very elect. And, thank God, this weapon is available for your use.

Overlordship

THE SWORD OF THE LORD is not against denominations, conventions, associations, etc., as such. We certainly do believe, however, that local churches should be autonomous and that every preacher should preach the Gospel as God lays it upon his heart. Just as we have taken our stand on every great issue, so we take our stand against "bossism," against denominational "big shots" cracking their whips over local pastors, telling them what to preach and when to preach it, what they must support, what program to follow. Again and again we have urged individual pastors and churches to preach against sin, to exhort, reprove, and instruct without fear or favor. When the Argentine Baptist Church of Kansas City almost unanimously voted to withdraw from the Northern Baptist Convention and when a few worldly opposers, aided by representa-

tives of the American Baptist Convention, in turn, unjustly and unfairly sued for the property, THE SWORD OF THE LORD exposed the whole rotten business. THE SWORD itself does not go in for toe-kissing, does not "cowtow" to "big shots" in order to win favor. And literally thousands of noble preachers have followed this example.

Yes, THE SWORD has caused laymen to gladly follow the pastor's leadership. It has been a powerful defender of the freedom of Protestant pulpits from coast to coast.

The Fires of Hell

AS THE SWORD OF THE LORD has proven a mighty defense against modernism, indifference, skepticism, worldliness, false cults, and overlordship, so it has been a powerful means of defending souls from an eternity without Christ, from the very fires of Hell. Without apology THE SWORD has specialized in strong, full-length revival sermons by the world's greatest soul-winning preachers. Virtually every noted Bible preacher and teacher in America who specializes in soul winning has sermons published in THE SWORD. And in these pages you will read sermons of the greatest soul winners of the past. Evangelists and pastors all over America make use of these powerful messages. They not only borrow ideas as to homiletics, technique, and the development of powerful Gospel sermons, but find use for the hundreds of illustrations and outlines suggested which they are able to incorporate into their own sermons. But more than that, THE SWORD wins many souls to Christ directly. A few weeks ago, you will remember, were long, long lists of names published in these columns of those who had been won to Christ directly through the ministry of THE SWORD. Hundreds of letters asking Bible questions flow across the editor's desk. Remember there are many people who live in isolated districts where there are no churches, and they write to John Rice asking Bible questions, asking for his advice about home problems, and many of them ask how to be saved.

Unsheath the Sword

The influence of this paper has gone, literally, around the earth. There are subscribers among people of almost every nation on earth. This is not a toy, but a weapon proven by trial in the forefront of the battle. It will help you defend your own life, your own family, your own pastor, and your own church from the vicious attacks of the Devil. But, like King Abdullah's dagger, it cannot defend you if it remains in its sheath. It is not the dagger in a silver sheath that saves lives, but a dagger in the hand of a warrior. And it is not THE SWORD OF THE LORD in our office that will help you, but THE SWORD OF THE LORD in your own home! And, like Abdullah's dagger, THE SWORD OF THE LORD is easily available. He wore his dagger in the front of his belt where it could be reached by either the right or left hand. And THE SWORD OF THE LORD is so easily accessible to anyone who wants it. For the price of one three-cent stamp a week, you can have THE SWORD in your home or in your friend's home. You can have an entire year's subscription for the price of only six hamburgers! The price of a daily newspaper, including the Sunday editions, for one month will just about pay to have THE SWORD OF THE LORD sent to your home for an entire year! If you really mean business you can easily have THE SWORD OF THE LORD in your home.

And many of you should be ashamed not to send THE SWORD OF THE LORD to many other homes at this time. I say this only because I honestly believe it is true. Let me remind you that the editor does not draw one cent of salary, but depends upon his revival love offerings for his living. And it would not mean one penny in my pocket if thousands of you sent in subscriptions as a result of this article. If you believe anything I say, then believe this—THE SWORD OF THE LORD is published for Jesus' sake. It is an honest attempt to

(Continued on page 6)

THE EDITOR'S Notes

by John R. Rice

Unless you accept a quota of 25, 50, 100 or more subscriptions, to be sent in by September 28, the special rock-bottom price of \$1.50 per year for subscriptions ends at midnight, March 31. Now, however, you may send four or more subscriptions at this rate, \$1.50 per year in the U. S., \$2 per year in Canada and foreign countries.

Until March 31, you may also have absolutely free the editor's big book, *All About Christian Giving*, 174 pages, 13 chapters, free with ten yearly subscriptions.

Rush your subscriptions to THE SWORD of the Lord, Wheaton, Illinois.

Typist and Secretary Needed

We seriously need several full-time and permanent helpers at the Sword of the Lord offices in Wheaton. We need one secretary, one extra good typist who can transcribe from dictating machine, one subscription clerk who can type. Must be accurate, careful, reliable.

Only devoted Christians need apply, people wanting to enter the Lord's work, willing to sacrifice to get out the Gospel. Beautiful surroundings, good Christian fellowship. Write Dr. John R. Rice, Wheaton, Illinois.

We Need Christian Schools That Are Really Christian

By Evangelist Bob Jones, Sr., founder of Bob Jones U.

A few years ago when the writer was president of Bob Jones University, we needed a scholarly teacher to head a certain department of the school. I quote a part of a letter which was written to more than two hundred college presidents. "We want a man with a Ph.D. degree to head the _____ department in our school. We are looking for a man with old-time mourner's bench religion and good common sense. Can you help us locate such a man?" I could write volumes on the replies I received. "There is no such an animal," one distinguished college president said. "I have been looking for a man like that for four years and have not been able to find him," another replied.

Before I forget it, let me say that we were able to locate the right person, but we had to search the entire United States in order to find him. This gives the orthodox Christians of America an idea of how difficult it is to run an old-time fundamental, orthodox, Christian college. It has been necessary for Bob Jones University to train a big percentage of its own teachers and direct them in their graduate work.

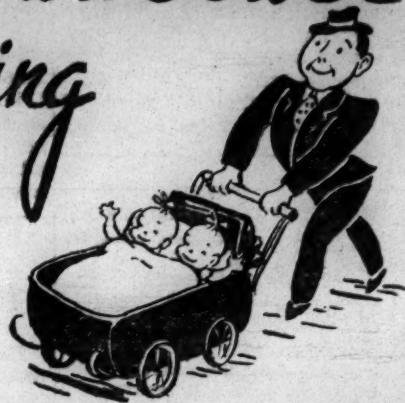
Most of the early school teachers in America believed in the "old-time religion." The Christian philosophy dominated the thought life of these old-time American teachers. The trouble with our nation is that we have substituted in the school room the satanic, behavioristic philosophy of "do as you please" for the old-time evangelical Christian philosophy of self denial. There are a good many Christian school teachers left, but in the higher educational realm, there is much atheism, rationalism, behaviorism, and agnosticism.

What this country needs is a great Christian graduate school with an old-time mourner's bench in it and a good old-time exhorter to train the right kind of teachers for orthodox Christian schools. When we founded Bob Jones University, we made up our minds that if we could not find a consecrated Christian teacher to teach any subject in Bob Jones University, we would simply let that department go until a teacher of the right kind could be found. It was a great test. However, since meeting this test, God has in a wonderful way supplied our needs. As I write these lines, my heart is filled with joy at the thought that the students who come to Bob Jones University sit at the feet of well trained, scholarly teachers but at the same time teachers who believe in the Bible and have had a Christian experience and teachers who put first things first.



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Three 1-year subscriptions, or one 3-year subscription, only \$5. Four or more yearly subscriptions, \$1.50 per year. Be sure to take advantage of this offer before midnight, March 31. Renew your own subscription and send THE SWORD OF THE LORD to others.

Rush subscriptions to THE SWORD OF THE LORD, Wheaton, Illinois.

Discipline In Daily Vacation Bible School

By Rev. Robert W. Swanson, Pastor
Elmwood Park Gospel Church, Elmwood Park, Illinois

Daily Vacation Bible School reaches boys and girls in an attractive and effective way with

eternal results. It is a most valuable ministry for us today, teaching our youth the Word of God.

It is essential, therefore, that the discipline aspect of V. B. S. be given careful thought. The control and conduct of V. B. S. will make or break the school.

Good, effective discipline is not an accident. It does not just happen. May the following suggestions aid to stimulate better discipline in your V. B. S.

Can we realize solid, firm and loving discipline? Yes, but it must begin with the directors and teachers of the school. This is of great importance. The discipline of the school must start with the staff.

What steps of discipline are expected of the school staff? The following are a few essential steps. First, check one's own spiritual life and seek prayerfully the Lord's strength, wisdom, patience and enabling power; second, thoroughly prepare each day's lesson in the light of the children's spiritual needs; third, be punctual and maintain a steady attendance throughout the school; fourth, be prepared to show warm, loving, yet dignified care and concern for each child; fifth, carefully observe each child with a studied desire to help the child to know the Lord Jesus Christ as Saviour and Friend.

Children sense when a teacher has loving care for them and is desirous to teach them. Therefore, the teaching staff, disciplined by the needed preparation, will realize a well executed school.

To say that there will not be the problem of disorder and disturbance during the school sessions is to expect too much. But one can be prepared to deal carefully and firmly when it does appear.

(Continued on page 6)

IMPORTANT STEPS IN YOUR D.V.B.S. PLANNING

1. Decide on the DATE—TIME—PLACE.

2. Decide on your Director (one with leadership ability).

3. Carefully select Departmental Heads, Teachers, helpers, a secretary.

4. Choose material best adapted to your need. See publishers listed below.*

5. Begin publicity now! Solicit full cooperation of pastor and Sunday School.

6. Order early. Give teachers time to get a thorough knowledge of lesson material and handwork.

7. Meet for Prayer. Plan several meetings for detailed preparation.

8. WIN THESE BOYS AND GIRLS FOR CHRIST!

* For samples of Daily Vacation Bible School material and helpful suggestions, write:

Ambassador Press, 2620 N. Halsted, Chicago 14, Ill.
American Sunday School Union, 1816 Chestnut St., Philadelphia, Penn.
Christian Publications, Inc., 3rd & Reily St., Harrisburg, Penn.
Concordia Publishing House, 3558 S. Jefferson St., St. Louis 18, Mo.
Covenant Press, 5101 N. Francisco Ave., Chicago 25, Ill.
Designed Products, Inc., 4816 W. Harrison, Chicago 44, Ill.

Gospel Light Press, 1214 S. Brand Blvd., Glendale 4, Calif.
Great Commissions Publications, Phillipsburg, N. J.
The Higley Press, Butler, Ind.
Mennonite Publishing House, 610 Walnut Ave., Scottsdale, Penn.
Scripture Press, 424 S. Wabash, Chicago 5, Ill.
Standard Publishing Co., 29 E. Central Parkway, Cincinnati 10, Ohio
Union Gospel Press, P. O. Box 6059, Cleveland 1, Ohio

The Dagger of Abdullah

(Continued from page 5)

save America from the lethargy, modernism, and worldliness that threatens to engulf our churches and our homes.

My brother's family is saved and well-grounded in the faith. My

own family, thank God, is saved. We are honestly trying to do something in Jesus' name that will help others. With all of my heart I hope you will believe this because, good neighbor, we so desperately need your help. Literally, all that we are and all that we have is dedicated to Jesus Christ.

But this is a task that several men or several hundred men cannot do. It is going to take thousands of us if we are going to give this paper the wide circulation God clearly wants it to have. Won't you please help by renewing your own subscription, by subscribing for friends and loved ones, and preachers, and teachers, and missionaries here in the States and around the world?

Let's unsheath the sword!

Discipline In D.V.B.S.

(Continued from page 5)

Disturbance usually revolves around one or two children who want to attract attention and try the teacher. Be alert to this situation and ready to deal with it. After opportunities have been given to such an individual to straighten up and adjust himself to the school program and he has failed to respond, it may be necessary to dismiss him from the school for the good of all. It is necessary at times to call a pupil's bluff with firm discipline. This proves to serve as an example to the rest of the school and strengthens the school discipline.

However, the teacher should never permit his own anger and wrath to be expressed. To do this, in many instances, bring unfavorable results. Predetermined methods of discipline makes for a smooth handling of stern discipline without personal involvement.

Beware of partiality. There are always youngsters who consider themselves "special characters." Children from prominent families in the church may present such a problem. Determine ahead of time how to deal with each case.

Expect each child, regardless of church connections, to be treated alike. Children will be quick to observe your fairness in dealing with them and will respond accordingly.

Individual counselling is suggested to help the child who is trying to work with others but finds that he is having difficulty. Each child should be looked upon as a treasure for the Lord and every effort put forth to help him know the Lord's power.

The following acoustic, using the letters found in the word DISCIPLINE, may prove a helpful key to aid in the discipline of your V.B.S.

D - DELIBERATE approach to the discipline aspect of your school or class with the necessary forethought and planning.

I - INDIVIDUAL recognition of each child in a loving and interested manner.

S - SURPRISES make for an atmosphere of interest and attentiveness.

C - CHALLENGE the children as well as yourself to give their best for the Lord.

I - INSTRUCTIVE in each day's session, endeavoring to teach the children new spiritual truths. P - PRAYERFUL dependence upon the Lord's help.

L - LOVING sincerely each child for the Lord.

I - INVENTIVE, ready to cope with the unexpected in a happy, unperturbed manner.

N - NATURAL—be yourself. This is always more effective and satisfying.

E - ENTHUSIASTIC—this is contagious and makes for a wide awake and alert school.

Strive toward the highest standards of discipline as you serve the Lord in your Daily Vacation Bible School.

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Ten Reasons Why I Believe . . .

(Continued from page 1)

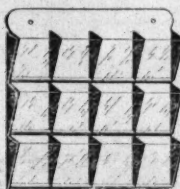
1. On the Ground of the Testimony of Jesus Christ

Many people accept the authority of Christ who do not accept that of the Bible as a whole. We all must accept His authority. He is accredited to us by five Divine testimonies: by the testimony of the Divine life He lived; by the testimony of the Divine words He spoke; by the testimony of the Divine works He wrought; by the Divine attestation of the resurrection from the dead; and by the testimony of His Divine influence upon the history of mankind. But if we accept the authority of Christ we must accept the authority of the Bible as a whole. He testifies definitely and specifically to the Divine authorship of the whole Bible.

We find His testimony as to the Old Testament in Mark 7:13. Here He calls the law of Moses the "word of God." That, of course, covers only the first five books of the Old Testament, but in Luke

24:27 we read, "And beginning at Moses and all the prophets, he expounded unto them in all the scriptures the things concerning himself," and in the forty-fourth verse He said, "All things must be fulfilled, which were written in the law of Moses and in the prophets and in the psalms." The Jews divided the Old Testament into three parts—the Law, the Prophets, and the Psalms—and Christ takes up each of these parts and sets the stamp of His authority upon it. In John 10:35 Christ says, "the scripture cannot be broken," thereby teaching the absolute accuracy and inviolability of the Old Testament. More specifically still, if possible, in Matthew 5:18, Jesus says, "one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled." A jot is the smallest letter in the Hebrew alphabet—less than half the size of any other letter, and a tittle is the merest point of a con-

(Continued on page 7)



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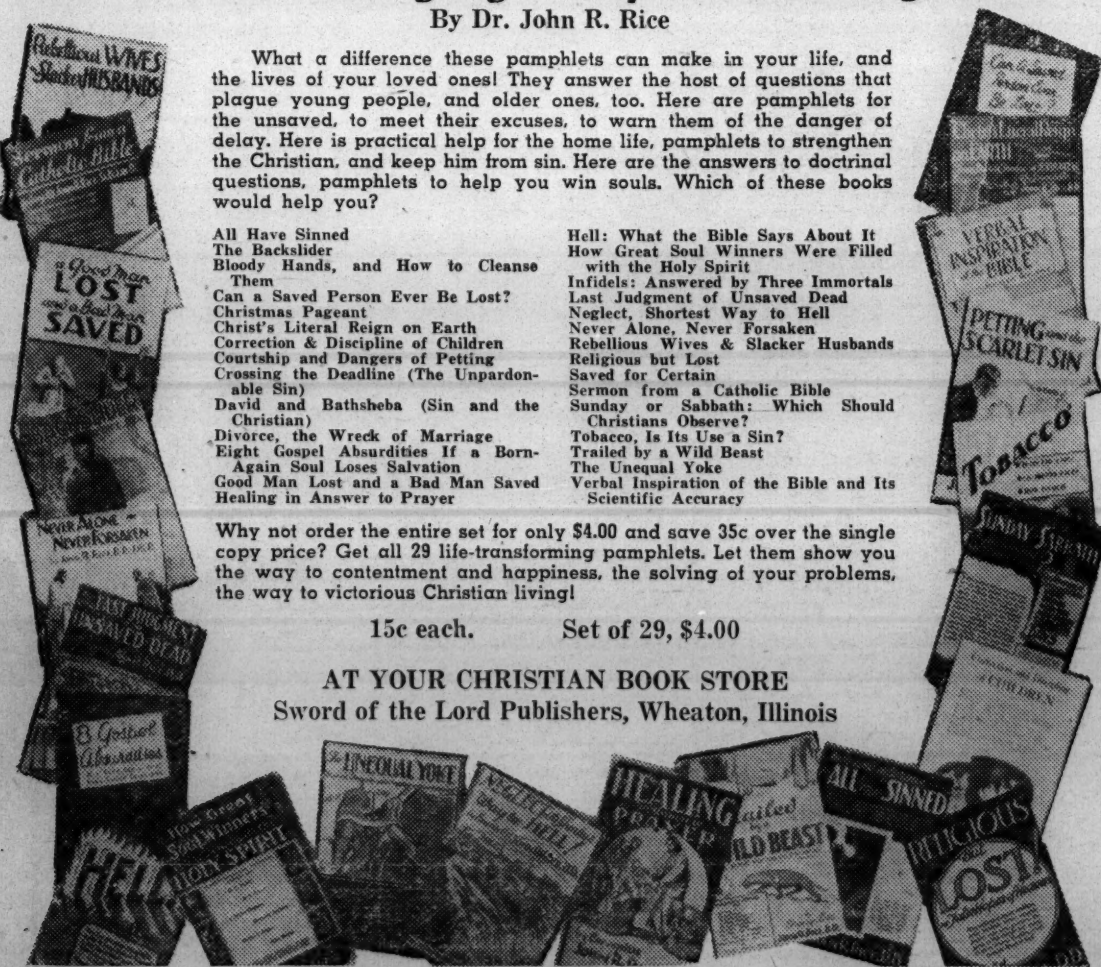
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Ten Reasons Why I Believe . . .

(Continued from page 6)

sonant—less than the cross we put on a "t,"—and Christ here declares that the Scripture is absolutely true, down to the smallest letter or point of a letter. So if we accept

the authority of Christ we must accept the Divine authority of the entire Old Testament.

Now, as to the New Testament —; we find Christ's endorsement of it in John 14:26,

"The Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you."

Here we see that not only was the teaching of the apostles to be fully inspired, but also their recollection of what Christ Himself taught. We are sometimes asked how we know that the apostles correctly reported what Jesus said — "may they not have forgotten?" True, they might forget, but Christ Himself tells us that in the Gospels we have, not the apostles' recollection of what He said, but the Holy Ghost's recollection, and the Spirit of God never forgets. In John 16:13, 14, Christ said that the Holy Ghost should guide the apostles into "all the truth," therefore in the New Testament teaching we have the whole sphere of God's truth. The teaching of the apostles is more complete than that of Jesus Himself, for He says in John 16:12, 13,

"I have yet many things to say unto you, but ye cannot bear them now. Howbeit, when he, the Spirit of truth is come, he will guide you into ALL TRUTH."

While His own teaching had been partial, because of their weakness, the teaching of the apostles, under the promised Spirit, was to take in the whole Sphere of God's truth.

So if we accept the authority of Christ we must accept that of the whole Bible, but we must, as already seen, accept Christ's authority.

2. On the Ground of Its Fulfilled Prophecies

There are two classes of prophecies in the Bible—first, the explicit, verbal prophecies; second, those of the types.

In the first we have the definite prophecies concerning the Jews, the heathen nations and the Messiah. Taking the prophecies regarding the Messiah as an illustration, look at Isaiah 53, Micah 5:2, Daniel 9:25-27. Many others might be mentioned, but these will serve as illustrations. In these prophecies, written hundreds of years before the Messiah came, we have the most explicit statements as to the manner and place of His birth, the manner of His reception by men, how His life would end, His resurrection and His victory succeeding His death. When made, these prophecies were exceedingly improbable, and seemingly impossible of fulfillment; but they were fulfilled to the very minutest detail of manner and place and time. How are we to account for it? Man could not have foreseen these improbable events—they lay hundreds of years ahead—but God could, and it is God who speaks through these men.

But the prophecies of the types are more remarkable still. Everything in the Old Testament—history, institutions, ceremonies—is prophetic. The high-priesthood, the ordinary priesthood, the Levites, the prophets, priests and kings, are all prophecies. The tabernacle, the brazen altar, the laver, the golden candlestick, the table of shewbread, the veil, the altar of incense, the ark of the covenant, the very coverings of the tabernacle, are prophecies. In all these things, as we study them minutely and soberly in the light of the history of Jesus Christ and the church, we see, wrapped up in the ancient institutions ordained of God to meet an immediate purpose, prophecies of the death, atonement, and resurrection of Christ, the day of Pentecost, and the entire history of the church. We see the profoundest Christian doctrines of the New Testament clearly foreshadowed in these institutions of the Old Testament. The only way in which you can appreciate this is to get into the Book itself and study all about the sacrifices and feasts, etc., till you see the truths of the New Testament shining out in the Old. If, in studying some elementary form of life, I find a rudimentary organ, useless now, but by the process of development to become of use in the animal's descendant, I say, back of this rudimentary organ is God, who, in the earlier animal, is preparing for the life and necessities of the animal that is to come. So, going back to these preparations in the Bible for the truth that is to be clearly taught at a later day, there is only one scientific way to account for them, namely, He who knows and prepares for the end from the beginning is the Author of that Book.

3. On the Ground of the Unity of the Book

This is an old argument, but a very satisfactory one. The Bible consists of sixty-six books, written by more than thirty different men, extending in the period of its composition over more than fifteen hundred years; written in three different languages, in many different countries, and by men on every plane of social life, from the herdsman and fisherman and cheap politician up to the king upon his throne; written under all sorts of circumstances; yet in all this wonderful conglomeration we find an absolute unity of thought.

A wonderful thing about it is that this unity does not lie on the surface. On the surface there is oftentimes apparent contradiction, and the unity only comes out after deep and protracted study.

More wonderful yet is the organic character of this unity, beginning in the first book and growing till you come to its culmination in the last book of the Bible. We have first the seed, then the plant, then the bud, then the blossom, then the ripened fruit.

Suppose a vast building were to

be erected, the stones for which were brought from the quarries in Rutland, Vermont; Berea, Ohio; Kasota, Minnesota, and Middletown, Connecticut. Each stone was hewn into final shape in the quarry from which it was brought. These stones were of all varieties of shape and size, cubical, rectangular, cylindrical, etc., but when they were brought together every stone fitted into its place, and when put together there rose before you a temple absolutely perfect in every outline, with its domes, sidewalls, buttresses, arches, transepts—not a gap or a flaw anywhere. How would you account for it? You would say:

"Back of these individual workers in the quarries was the mastermind of the architect who planned it all, and gave to each individual worker his specifications for the work."

So in this marvelous temple of God's truth which we call the Bible, whose stones have been quarried at periods of time and in places so remote from one another, but where every smallest part fits each other part, we are forced to say that back of the human hands that wrought was the Master-mind that thought.

4. On the Ground of the Immeasurable Superiority of the Teachings of the Bible to Those of Any Other and All Other Books

It is quite fashionable in some quarters to compare the teachings of the Bible with the teachings of Zoroaster, and Buddha, and Confucius, and Epictetus, and Socrates, and Marcus Aurelius Antoninus, and a number of other heathen authors. The difference between the teachings of the Bible and those of these men is found in three points:

First, the Bible has in it nothing but truth, while all the others have truth mixed with error. It is true Socrates taught how a philosopher ought to die; he also taught how a woman of the town ought to conduct her business. Jewels there are in the teachings of these men, but (as Joseph Cook once said) they are "jewels picked out of the mud."

Second, the Bible contains all truth. There is not a truth to be found anywhere on moral or spiritual subjects that you cannot find in substance within the covers of that old Book. I have often, when speaking upon this subject, asked anyone to bring me a single truth on moral or spiritual subjects which, upon reflection, I could not find within the covers of this book, and no one has ever been able to do it. I have taken pains to compare some of the better teachings of infidels with those of the Bible. They indeed have jewels of thought, but they are, whether they knew it or not, stolen jewels, and stolen from the very book they ridicule.

The *third* point of superiority is this: the Bible contains more truth than all other books together. Get together from all literature of ancient and modern times all the beautiful thoughts you can; put away all the rubbish; put all these truths that you have culled from the literature of all ages into one book, and as the result, even then you will not have a book that will take the place of this one book.

This is not a large book. I hold in my hand a copy that I carry in my vest pocket, and yet in this one little book there is more truth than in all the books which man has produced in all the ages of his history. How will you account for it? There is only one rational way. This is not man's book, but God's book.

5. On the Ground of the History of the Book, Its Victory Over Attack

This book has always been hated. No sooner was it given to the world than it met the hatred of men, and they tried to stamp it out. Celsus tried it by the brilliancy of his genius, Porphyry by the depth of his philosophy; but they failed. Lucian directed against it the shafts of his ridicule, Diocletian the power of the Roman Empire; but they failed. Edicts backed by all the power of the

(Continued on page 8)



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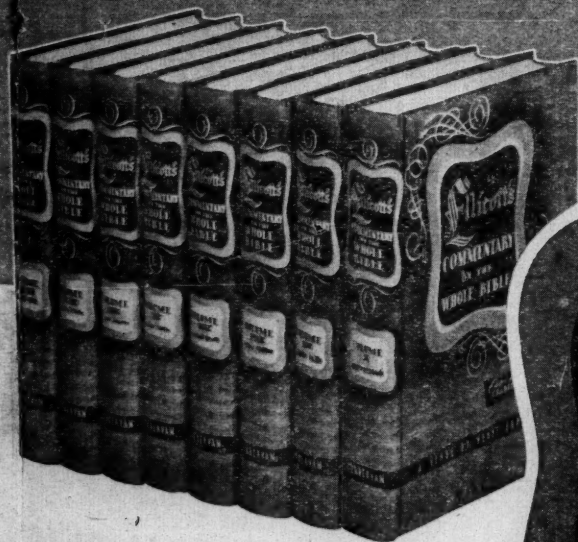
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Ten Reasons Why I Believe . . .

(Continued from page 7)

empire were issued that every Bible should be burned, and that everyone who had a Bible should be put to death. For eighteen centuries every engine of destruction that human science, philosophy, wit, reasoning or brutality could bring to bear against a book has been brought to bear against that Book to stamp it out of the world, but it has a mightier hold on the world to-day than ever before.

If that were man's book it would have been annihilated and forgotten hundreds of years ago, but because there is in it "the hiding of God's power," though at times all the great men of the world have been against it, and only an obscure remnant for it, still it has fulfilled wonderfully the words of Christ, though not in the sense of the original prophecy, "Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my word shall not pass away."

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6. On the Ground of the Character of Those Who Accept and of Those Who Reject the Book

Two things speak for the divinity of the Bible—the character of those who accept it, and, equally, the character of those who reject it. I do not mean by this that every man who professes to believe the Book is better than every man that does not, but show me a man living an unselfish, devoted life, one who without reservation has surrendered himself to do the will of God, and I will show you a man who believes the Bible to be God's Word. On the other hand, show me a man who rejects the Divine authority of that Book, and I will show you a man living a life of greed, or lust, or spiritual pride, or self will.

Suppose you have a book purporting to be by a certain author, and the people best acquainted with that author say it is his, and the people least acquainted with him say it is not; which will you believe? Now, the people best acquainted with God say the Bible is His Book; those who are least acquainted with God say it is not. Which will you believe?

Furthermore, as men grow better they are more likely to accept the Bible, and as they grow worse they are more likely to reject it. We have all known men who were both sinful and unbelieving, who by forsaking their sin lost their unbelief. Did any of us ever know a man who was sinful and believing, who by forsaking his sin lost his faith? The nearer men live to God the more confident they are that the Bible is God's Word; the farther they get away from Him the more confident they are that it is not.

Where is the stronghold of the Bible? In the pure, unselfish, happy home. Where is the stronghold of infidelity? The gambling hell, the drinking saloon and the brothel. If a man should walk into a saloon and lay a Bible down upon the bar, and order a drink, we should think there was a strange incongruity in his actions; but if he should lay any infidel writing upon the bar, and order a drink, we would not feel that there was any incongruity.

7. On the Ground of the Influence of the Book

There is more power in that little Book to save men, and purify, gladden and beautify their lives, than in all other literature put together—more power to lift men up to God. A stream never rises higher than its source, and a book that has a power to lift men up to God that no other book has, must have come down from God in a way that no other book has.

I have in mind as I write a man who was the most complete victim of strong drink I ever knew; a man of marvelous intellectual gifts, but who had been stupefied and brutalized and demonized by the power of sin, and he was an infidel. At last the light of God shone into his darkened heart, and by the power of that Book he has been transformed into one of the humblest, sweetest, noblest men I know today.

What other book would have done that? What other book has the power to elevate not only individuals but communities and nations that this Book has?

8. On the Ground of the Inexhaustible Depth of the Book

Nothing has been added to it in eighteen hundred years, yet a man like Bunsen, or Neander, cannot exhaust it by the study of a lifetime. George Mueller read it through more than one hundred times, and said it was fresher every time he read it. Could that be true of any other book?

But more wonderful than this—not only individual men but generations of men for eighteen hundred years have dug into it and given to the world thousands of volumes devoted to its exposition, and they have not reached the bottom of the quarry yet. A book that man produces man can exhaust, but all men together have not been able to get to the bottom

of this Book. How are you going to account for it? Only in this way—that in this Book are hidden the infinite and inexhaustible treasures of the wisdom and knowledge of God.

A brilliant Unitarian writer, in trying to disprove the inspiration of the Bible says: "How irreligious to charge an infinite God with having written His whole Word in so small a book." He does not see how his argument can be turned against himself. What a testimony it is to the divinity of this Book that such infinite wisdom is stored away in so small a compass.

9. On the Ground of the Fact That As We Grow in Knowledge and Holiness We Grow Toward the Bible

Every thoughtful person when he starts out to study the Bible finds many things with which he does not agree, but as he goes on studying and growing in likeness to God, the nearer he gets to God the nearer he gets to the Bible. The nearer and nearer we get to God's standpoint the less and less becomes the disagreement between us and the Bible. What is the inevitable mathematical conclusion? When we get where God is, we and the Bible will meet. In other words, the Bible was written from God's standpoint.

Suppose you are traveling through a forest under the conduct of an experienced and highly recommended guide. You come to a place where two roads diverge. The guide says the road to the left is the one to take, but your own judgment, passing upon the facts before it sees clear evidence, says that the road to the right is the one to take. You turn and say to the guide.

"I know you have had large experience in this forest, and you have come to me highly recommended, but my own judgment tells me clearly that the road to the right is the one we should take, and I must follow my own judgment. I know my reason is not infallible, but it is the best guide I have."

But after you have followed that path for some distance you are obliged to stop, turn around and go back and take the path which the guide said was the right one.

After a while you come to another place where two roads diverge. Now the guide says the road to the right is the one to take, but your judgment clearly says the one to the left is the one to take, and again you follow your own judgment with the same result as before. After you had this experience forty or fifty times, and found yourself wrong every time, I think you would have sense enough the next time to follow the guide.

That is just my experience with the Bible. I received it at first on the authority of others. Like almost all other young men, my confidence became shaken, and I came to the fork in the road more than forty times, and I followed my own reason, and in the outcome found myself wrong and the Bible right every time, and I trust that from this time on I shall have sense enough to follow the teachings of the Bible whatever my own judgment may say.

10. On the Ground of the Direct Testimony of the Holy Spirit

We began with God and shall end with God. We began with the testimony of the Second Person of the Trinity, and shall close with that of the Third Person of the Trinity.

The Holy Spirit sets His seal in the soul of every believer to the Divine authority of the Bible. It is possible to get to a place where we need no argument to prove that the Bible is God's Word. Christ says, "My sheep know my voice," and God's children know His voice, and I know that the voice that speaks to me from the pages of that Book is the voice of my Father. You will sometimes meet a pious old lady, who tells you that she knows that the Bible is God's Word, and when you ask her for a reason for believing that it is God's Word she can give you none. She simply says: "I know it is God's Word."

You say: "That is mere superstition."

Not at all. She is one of Christ's

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LORD went into this matter lightly, or in an unbrotherly fashion, and without knowing enough of the facts to deal honestly and fairly, is, I think, unfortunate. The matter deserves more attention on our part than that, it seems to me.

I have no doubt of your honesty. I thank God for your real concern, not wanting good men to be misrepresented, or useful institutions to be hurt. Your attitude does you credit. At the same time you ought to expect to take more time and go into the matter more thoroughly, it seems to me, before you take for granted that THE SWORD OF THE LORD is all wrong.

Let me take up the matters you mention under several heads, for my convenience and yours.

sheep and recognizes her Shepherd's voice from every other voice. She is one of God's children, and knows the voice which speaks to her from the Bible is the voice of God. She is above argument.

Everyone can have that testimony. John 7:17 (R.V.) tells you how to get it.

"If any man willeth to do his will, he shall know of the teaching, whether it is of God."

Just surrender your will to the will of God, no matter where it carries you, and you will put yourself in such an attitude toward God that when you read this Book you will recognize that the voice that speaks to you from it is the voice of the God to whom you have surrendered your will.

Some time ago, when I was speaking to our students upon how to deal with skeptics, there was in the audience a graduate of a British university who had fallen into utter skepticism. At the close of the lecture he came to me and said:

"I don't wish to be discourteous, sir, but my experience contradicts everything you have said."

I asked him if he had followed the course of action that I had suggested and not found light. He said that he had. Stepping into another room I had a pledge written out running somewhat as follows:

"I believe there is an absolute difference between right and wrong, and I hereby take my stand upon the right, to follow it wherever it carries me. I promise earnestly to endeavor to find out what the truth is, and if I ever find that Jesus Christ is the Son of God, I promise to accept Him as my Savior and confess Him before the world."

I handed the paper to the gentleman and asked him if he was willing to sign it. He answered, "Certainly," and did sign it. I said to him:

"You don't know there is not a God, and you don't know that God doesn't answer prayer. I know He does, but my knowledge cannot avail for you, but here is a possible clue to knowledge. Now you have promised to search earnestly for the truth, so you will follow this possible clue. I want you to offer a prayer like this: 'Oh, God, if there be any God, and thou dost answer prayer, show me whether Jesus Christ is thy Son, and if you show me He is, I will accept Him as my Savior and confess Him before the world.'"

This he agreed to do. I further requested that he would take the Gospel of John and read in it every day, reading only a few verses at a time slowly and thoughtfully, every time before he read asking God to give him light. This he also agreed to do, but he finished by saying, "There is nothing in it." However, at the end of a short time, I met him again, and he said to me.

"There is something in that."

I replied, "I know that." Then he went on to say it seemed just as if he had been caught up by the Niagara River and had been carried along, and that before long he would be a shouting Methodist.

A short time ago I met this gentleman again, and he said to me that he could not understand how he had been so blind, how he had ever listened to the reasoning which he had; that it seemed to him utterly foolish now. I replied that the Bible would explain this to him, that the "natural man re-

I. The Southern Baptist Seminary Did Wrong in the Matter of Having Nels Ferre for the Gay Lectures in 1947

Not only did the seminary do wrong, but it seems to me that in good conscience they should do more to clear their skirts than has been done.

First of all, it was not right to invite such a man to give the lectures.

Second, the lectures were not properly disavowed by the seminary.

Dr. Dale Moody of the Southern Baptist Seminary says in a letter to you: "The lectures delivered here were published as *Pillars of Faith* (1948). In the October, 1948, issue of the *REVIEW AND EXPOSITOR*, page 462, I spoke of his statement: 'God wants to write a new and even better Scriptures' as a reckless statement."

Do you believe that that is enough to say about lectures which denied the virgin birth and other fundamentals of the faith? One statement that openly denies the inspiration and completeness of the Word of God is simply labelled "a reckless statement." In fact, Dr. Ferre is not reckless. He has through the years deliberately point by point, set out to break down faith in practically every fundamental of the Christian faith. He is not a good Christian who has made a few rash statements; he is an infidel deliberately attacking the Bible and Christianity.

Third, note the weakness of Dr. Dale Moody's defense. He said: "In fact, there was much discussion and no little heated controversy going on behind the scenes even before Dr. Fuller denounced him in public. Before the week was ended, Dr. Fuller was very perturbed, and several times denounced Ferre before the audiences."

Do you believe that? Do you believe that Dr. Ellis Fuller "several times denounced Ferre before the audiences" where Ferre was to lecture, but still kept Dr. Ferre there fulfilling the lecture course? I must insist that keeping Ferre there, having him lecture, necessarily endorsed Ferre. And I do not believe that Dr. Fuller would get up and "denounce" Ferre publicly, then introduce him for the lecture. That is not sensible. Things simply do not happen that way. He might have expressed some mild disagreement and still have Dr. Ferre continue the lectures. If he had denounced him as the enemy of the faith that he is, broken completely with him as vehemently as the term "denounced" certainly means, then he would have stopped the series of lectures and sent Ferre on his way.

The simple fact is that the seminary selected Ferre to give the lectures, and despite some undercover resentment, had him continue them straight on through the week.

Fourth, the evidence that I have does not bear out Dr. Dale Moody's statement that Dr. Fuller "denounced" Dr. Ferre several times before the audiences during that week of lectures. A strong Southern Baptist pastor who was then a student in the seminary told me about the lectures. He said that although the faculty did not publicly attack Ferre's position, some of the students did in classes during that time. This pastor was not disturbed, he was loyal to the seminary, and he assured me that I

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celveth not the things of the Spirit of God," but now that he had put himself into the right attitude towards God and His truth, everything had been made plain. That man, who assured me that he was "a very peculiar man," and that methods that influenced others would not influence him, by putting himself into the right attitude towards God, got to a place where he received the direct testimony of the Holy Ghost that this Bible is God's Word; and any one else can do the same.

(From the book, *OUR BIBLE*. Published by Moody Press, Inc., Colportage Library. Available from *The Sword of the Lord* Publishers, Wheaton, Illinois, 35c a copy.)

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(Continued from page 8)

need not fret about it because the students would keep the seminary straight. It was not necessary for the professors to take action. He told me plainly that Ferre, in those lectures in the Southern Baptist Seminary in 1947, denied the virgin birth of Christ, and said that the students were really concerned about it. He thought it was all right for the seminary to bring such unbelievers there, and thought the students would not be influenced by them. I am simply saying that all the evidence goes to show that the seminary got Ferre there to deliver lectures, that they kept him through the week despite all the protests. I do not say that Dr. Fuller agreed with Ferre. I am simply saying that he should have sent the man home as soon as he learned that he was an unbeliever in the Bible, in the blood atonement, and in every fundamental of the Christian faith, so dear to sound Baptists.

II. The Infidel Position of Nels Ferre Now is Exactly the Same as it Was Long Before He Came to Southern Baptist Seminary in 1947

I find that Dr. Dale Moody leaves the idea that the false teaching by Ferre in 1947 was a surprise, a shock; he leaves the impression that Ferre at that time was thought to be evangelical and true to the Scriptures. Dr. Moody says: "I personally discussed the affair with Dr. Fuller many times, and Dr. Fuller's disgust with Ferre did not diminish with time. It became clear to most of us that Ferre was slipping away from the central core of evangelical Christianity, and this was a great disappointment."

Dr. Dale Moody has in this matter evidently misled you, whether by intention, or because he was misinformed. You, Dr. Hause, write me: "Also, we should keep in mind that when Ferre gave those lectures in 1947 he was accepted and respected by conservatives everywhere. As late as September 1, 1948, Dr. Moody writes me—'Dr. Carl F. H. Henry mentions Ferre in the company with Torwald Bender of North American Seminary, Lorraine Boettner, Edward J. Carnell of Fuller Seminary, Bernard Ramm of Bible Institute of Los Angeles, Wm. Childs Robinson of Columbia Seminary, and Cornelius Van Til of Westminster Seminary. As you know, these men are well-known conservative men.'"

Thus Dr. Dale Moody has led you to believe. I assure you that you are entirely mistaken. I cannot go into any statement by my friend, Dr. Carl F. H. Henry of Fuller Seminary. Dr. Moody should have given the entire passage. Even if Dr. Henry mentioned Ferre, that would not prove that Henry thought Ferre was "accepted and respected by conservatives everywhere." And if Dr. Henry had thought so, that would not make it true. The facts are available for everybody who goes into Dr. Ferre's life and teachings. And the facts prove that Dr. Ferre was an infidel holding exactly the same general denials of the faith long before he went to Louisville Seminary, and that these denials of the faith were publicly published and could have been known by anybody interested.

1. First, Consider Dr. Ferre's Background.

I have before me a mimeographed sheet which Vanderbilt University sent me, a biographical data sheet. He is only 45 or 46 now, about 39 when he gave the Gay Lectures in Louisville Seminary. But already he was well-established as an out-and-out liberal. All of his training was in the most liberal of schools—Boston University, Andover-Newton, Harvard University, Uppsala and Lund in the Old Country.

Can you name any well-known man in the world with that background who is known as a conservative, without ever having had any training in any conservative school?

Then his teaching has been in Andover-Newton, in Harvard, and

in Vanderbilt, with a visiting professorship in Oxford University.

His lectureships as named on this slip before me were at Andover-Newton, Texas Christian University, at Bangor Theological Seminary, at the Pacific School of Religion, at Vanderbilt University, at Bethany Biblical Seminary, at Garrett Biblical Institute, at Southern Methodist University, at Lancaster Theological Seminary, at Emory University—and at Southern Baptist Seminary! Do you know one of these schools that claims to be out-and-out conservative, unless we count Southern Baptist Seminary so?

Dr. Ferre is the author of eleven books, all published by Harpers. Do you regard Harpers as a conservative publishing house?

2. But More Definitely, Ferre Had Printed His Infidelity as Long as Five Years Before he Went to the Louisville Seminary!

Before me is his book, *The Christian Faith*, published in 1942. Notice these quotations:

"Christianity alone can constructively fulfill all other religions. (The reader will observe that the nature of *agape* is such as to preclude 'invidious comparison' of Christianity with other religions, and also makes essential learning whatever is good in other religions.)"

He says:

"Much of the material in this book has been used for lectures at the Vermont Study Conference for Congregational and Methodist ministers, the State Convention of the Congregational Churches of New Hampshire, and the Study Conference of the Congregational Ministers of New England, New York, and New Jersey."

If you know New England Congregationalists, the most radical Unitarians of any in America, you know what to expect about the content of *The Christian Faith*, as seen by Ferre!

On page 27 Dr. Ferre asks, "But can the Bible tell us more than what Christianity once was? Is Christianity necessarily the same today?" He answers that Christianity is not necessarily the same today, although he pretends to go back to the Bible.

On pages 33 and 34 he says:

"Whatever Christianity is, its founder and firm foundation is Jesus Christ. This is true whether we go to the conservative extreme where Jesus is a supernatural Savior with an eternally pre-existing personality or whether we go to the radical extreme. . ."

The idea that Jesus is "a supernatural Savior with an eternally pre-existing personality" is, Dr. Ferre says, "the conservative extreme."

On page 91 Dr. Ferre says, "Perhaps we shall always grow in the knowledge of God and in numberless fellowships, growing forever in and with God." Dr. Ferre thought that God is developing, growing. And that five years before he went to Louisville Seminary in 1947!

On pages 94 and 95 Dr. Ferre says:

"To a great extent we have taken two inadequate attitudes toward these doctrines. Some have insisted on their literal truth throughout. Others have discarded them as 'superstitious' and turned to reason and the philosophy of religion. The historic doctrines of the Person and Work of Christ, however, are a precious gift wrapped in inexpensive paper."

He says that to insist on the literal truth of Bible doctrines is an "inadequate attitude." He says that the scriptural statements of truth are "inexpensive paper" wrapped around the truth he holds of a fictitious "incarnation" of the Christ in Jesus.

On page 95 he says, "The same, of course, is true also of the Bible. Some insist on its literal truth and call all heretics who do not accept this position." Ferre says that that too is inadequate, believing in the Bible as literal truth.

On page 96 Ferre denies the deity of Jesus. He says:

"If God is personal, in short,

how is Christian monotheism compatible with a Christian doctrine of the Trinity, or any doctrine in which Jesus is accepted as God and Saviour? These issues must be faced without equivocation. There have been too much evasion and too many dead doctrines in Christian theology."

Ferre's doctrine then, as now, was that Jesus is not God. That, he says, is one of the "dead doctrines in Christian theology."

On pages 99 and 100 Dr. Ferre says:

"We believe that Christianity is basically monotheistic and shall proceed on that assumption. There is no argument, empirical or logical, that can prove absolutely that God is one. But if we understand that the growth in religious knowledge has been toward monotheism, that the main philosophic arguments point to one God, that there were divergent interpretations of the Person of Jesus in the early Church, that the Trinity in terms of three personalities is not in the earliest and best Christian tradition, and that it arose in the first place as an endeavor of the Church to explain the unique revelation and power of God which was felt in Christ Jesus, we must feel that the preponderant weight within Christianity lies on the side of monotheism and that we do not proceed arbitrarily."

On the same page he says:

"That we are made in God's image means at least that we are created personalities. It means more, to be sure, but the fact that we are children of God by creation is important for Christology because Jesus, too, was a human personality belonging to this created history. In form we all share divinity of nature."

This is exactly the same teaching, blasphemous and infidel, which appears in the later books, like *The Sun and the Umbrella*. Here Ferre says that all of us are "created personalities," and "Jesus, too, was a human personality belonging to this created history." He says that Jesus and the rest of us "all share divinity of nature." Then he goes on to say that "in Jesus, God's *agape* which is His very nature visited men in matchless fullness." He is saying that God's love was in Jesus, but Jesus was a created personality, like the rest of us, and divine only in the sense that all men are divine.

On the next page, 101, Dr. Ferre says, "God gave Himself in Jesus. This must not be taken to mean that the eternal Personality which is God walked on earth."

On page 102 Ferre says:

"God differs from all men, including Jesus, in that His personality alone is eternal and the Creator of all other personalities. God differs from all men, except Jesus, in that no one by himself has God's *agape*."

Here we are plainly told that Jesus was not the Creator, and that Jesus is not eternal. He is saying that Jesus had no pre-existence, but only that God's love (*agape*) entered into Jesus. Again, one sentence below, Ferre says, "Jesus differs from God the Father in that he is not the Eternal Personality." I deny that statement. Jesus is as eternal as God the Father. He is Creator, not creature. So the Bible teaches, so historical Christianity has always held, so infidels like Ferre have always denied.

Please remember that this book was published 5 years before Ferre gave the Gay Lectures at Southern Baptist Seminary in 1947.

On page 103 of this book published in 1942, *The Christian Faith*, Ferre says that fundamentalists have perverted the doctrine of the virgin birth by taking it literally. He says:

"In spite of its importance, few doctrines have been more neglected or perverted than that of the Virgin Birth: on the one hand, by the supercilious attitude of the 'modernists,' who consider even concern about the problem an evidence of superstition or of lack of judgment; and on the other hand, by the 'fundamentalists,' who have made the literal acceptance of the historic doctrine a shibboleth of Christian orthodoxy."

In the next few pages Ferre is insisting that the spiritual truth

is that God's love was revealed in Jesus, and that that is enough to get out of the Bible without believing that the Bible is all true, or without believing that the virgin birth really took place. On page 104 Ferre says:

"The Bible as God's word is the source book of the Christian religion and is on a different plane from all other books. In a very special way it is God's own Word. This naturally does not mean that it is throughout God's words, equally and infallibly true."

This is a clear statement that not all of the Bible is God's Word and that not all of it is infallibly true.

At the bottom of page 105 and on page 106 Ferre discusses the virgin birth in these words:

"This attitude toward the Bible illustrates our approach to the doctrine of the Virgin Birth. The literalists insist on keeping the wrapping as an intrinsic, indispensable part of the gift of truth. As a matter of fact, scholars tell us that even the Bible record is confused, the paternity of Joseph being taken for granted as well as outright denied; and surely, the fact of the Virgin Birth seems not to have been an assumption necessary for vital faith in Biblical days. That much can be proved by the argument from silence. These considerations, unfortunately, will have no meaning to those who, *a priori*, as a tenet of faith, accept the proposition that if a thing is said in the Bible it must be so."

He does not believe the virgin birth and does not agree with conservatives who "accept the proposition that if a thing is said in the Bible it must be so."

Again, on page 110 Ferre denies the pre-existence of Jesus. He says:

"It is true that we do not teach the pre-existence of the personality of Jesus. There is only one eternal Personality. The historic personality of Jesus was fully human."

Dr. Ferre also taught that Jesus had the weakness and frailty, and was even *sinned as other men*. At the bottom of page 122 and 123 he says: "The temptations of Jesus, consequently, were real temptations. He could without hypocrisy say that 'none is good save one, that is God.' His human inclinations could be so set against his sense of duty that Gethsemane became a place of real spiritual struggle. . ."

Here he says that Jesus was admitting that He was not God and that He was not good, and that in the Garden of Gethsemane Jesus had a struggle against the sin of "His human inclinations."

On page 123 he says, "Some devout people make of Jesus an artificial man with God's full power and knowledge who could have taught us all about science and history." He said this is "a distortion of the Christian faith."

Although Ferre does not believe in the literal virgin birth of Christ, and believes that Jesus might have been the illegitimate Son of a harlot Mary and a blond German soldier, as he says in the book, *Christian Understanding of God*, page 191, but he explains why he continually uses the term "the virgin birth." He says on page 130 of *The Christian Faith*:

"We can best point to the exceptional spiritual fact by interpreting the account of the exceptional physical fact. For

there is this basic pedagogical problem involved: to what extent can we forfeit the literal truth and still be spiritually effective especially with the mass of people?"

Although he does not believe in the virgin birth, like other lying modernists he uses "feigned words" to deceive common people.

Surely that is enough to show you that Ferre, in 1942, believed just as he does now, like all infidels believe, not like Christians believe. It was as wrong to have him at the Southern Baptist Seminary in 1947 as it would be now. He was already in print on his infidelity, his denial of the actual

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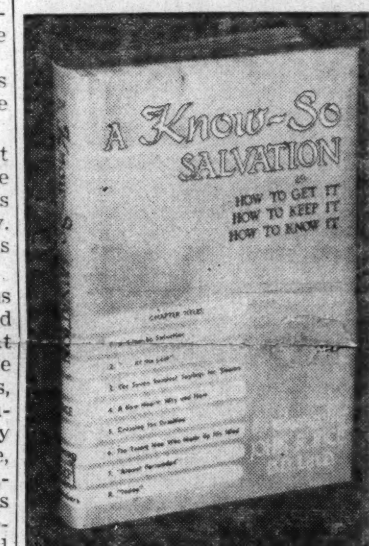
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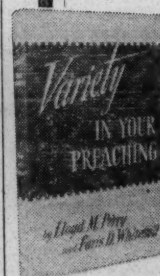
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deity of Christ, the virgin birth, the full authority of the Bible then, as he is now, though he has restated his teaching in various books. Ferre was never a Bible-believer since he has been a theologian, at least, has never been an evangelical, should never have been accepted as a Christian among Baptists or anybody else.

3. Ferre's Marxism, Socialism, and Pacifism, as Well as his Denial of Historic Christianity, Shown Also in the Book RETURN TO CHRISTIANITY, Published 1943.

Not only was Dr. Ferre's modernism very obvious, as published in the book, *The Christian Faith*, in 1942. He repeated the same

kind of infidelity in the book, *Return to Christianity*, published a year later, 1943. That was four years before he gave the Gay Lectures at the Southern Baptist Seminary at Louisville. There on page 5 he says that traditional Christianity has "failed man both theoretically and practically." He says that modern man finds "traditional theology," by which he means historic Christianity, the fundamental Bible faith, "inconsistent in theory . . . He finds, in fact, a dogmatic system which talks about a personal devil who will actually possess most men in an eternal hell. . . ."

He says: "Modern man cannot force his spirit into the straight jacket of such a repulsive religion. Only those who have never fully opened their eyes to the light of the fuller truth can live with deep conviction within the inconsistencies of traditional theology." (p.6).

Then again and again he says "traditional theology failed."

On page 18 he says: "We need a new theology organically combining faith and reason. . . . It is obvious that Ferre in 1943 denied the fundamentals of the Christian faith as he does now."

Moreover, in that book, *Return to Christianity*, Ferre takes a pro-Russian attitude and defends the Marx ideology throughout. On page 8 he said, "Mostly by God's good grace, we can now see, 'Christianity' as the opium of the people was swept out of Russia. . . ."

In this book, *Return to Christianity*, chapter 3 discusses "Christianity and the Church." There, on page 49, Ferre advocates organic union of all denominations, including Roman Catholics! He says, "Every refusal to co-operate organically as far and quickly as possible, from the largest sect, the Roman, to the smallest group in an isolated hamlet, is a direct refusal of Christian fellowship." Then a few lines further he says, "Federalism may have to precede organic union."

On the next page he says, "But the Christian Church is one organism and must express that fact in its organization."

In chapter 4, on "Christianity and Society," Ferre goes all-out for Marxism-Socialism. He approves "democratic socialism as the nearest approximation we can see to a Christian ideal of economic organization." He says, "Property belongs, first of all, to God, has been given by Him for social purposes, and no individual or group is ever more than a steward of it." He says, "Primary control of property, therefore, by the very nature of things belongs under God to society as a functional whole. . . ." (p.65).

On page 66 he says, "'Free enterprise,' therefore, is not a little an apologetic expression to justify an unchristian system conducive to unchristian social behavior."

More than once Ferre denounces "free enterprise," denounces "private property." He says that the present American system must be done away with. "The social patterns of private profit are painfully destructive of the very basic ideals of a Christian society and must give way to a new social system. Socialism, that is public ownership (or at least definite control over) all economic resources, means production, and all other processes which directly affect the commonweal, points challengingly in a Christian direction."

Here is Marxism, Socialism, and Communism in essence. Ferre, speaking for church groups, is yet an enemy of American society, an enemy of private ownership of property, an enemy of free enterprise, an enemy of private profit, and says so openly!

Three or four times in the 76 pages of the book, Russia is praised.

It is certainly lack of information that would lead any one to say that Ferre was originally a conservative Bible-believer before he went to the Southern Baptist Seminary in 1947. That simply is not true. Ferre was never anything in his public ministry but a modernist and a socialist, both of the rankest type.

Remember that this book was published in the midst of World War II; yet in it he has two whole pages advocating pacifism. The term "pacifism" is used favorably again and again. He says, "Never can a radical Christian participate

in the hate and narrow nationalism of war" (p.74).

Of course all of us are against war, but the Bible teaches that true government must put down crime, including such crimes as those of Hitler and Mussolini, the enslavement and murder of whole races of people. What can be the profit in having our ministerial students taught that kind of rot; the unbelief of the modernists, the ideology of the communists, and socialists, and the pacifism line of the DAILY WORKER magazine? What can common Baptists and Methodists think about any group who calls on this infidel Ferre, to lecture to its young people?

Again, let me say that Ferre has never been, in all of his published ministry, a conservative, Bible-believing Christian. There is not a particle of evidence that he has ever been converted, that he ever took his stand for the Bible as the Word of God, for Christ as God incarnate, for historic Christianity. He has used Christian terms, and he says that he used them intentionally, terms like "the virgin birth," in order to deal with the masses of the people, but says that he does not believe in the literal meaning of these terms himself.

IV. All Christian Institutions Are Obligated to Prove Their Soundness in Faith

The Scripture says that Christians should "provide things honest in the sight of all men" (Rom. 12:17). Schools should not only be orthodox, but should openly manifest orthodoxy all the time. The same obligation rests upon Christian magazines like THE SWORD OF THE LORD. We are not only commanded to be honest in private and orthodox in private, but we are commanded to openly show that honesty and that orthodoxy.

The Southern Baptist Seminary at Louisville has been widely criticized for having had Dr. Nels Ferre as a speaker. Instead of expecting good Christian leaders and Christian magazines to excuse this mistake, and to explain it away, it seems to me the obvious duty of the seminary administration to clear its skirts beyond any doubt.

It happens that I am a Southern Baptist, trained in Southern Baptist schools, once active in the Southern Baptist pastorate, having taught in a Southern Baptist college, and now being a member of a Southern Baptist church, the Highland Park Baptist Church, Chattanooga, Tennessee. I have openly opposed some outstanding cases of modernism among Southern Baptists, as I believe was absolutely right; but I have been a friend of Southern Baptists. I have continually proclaimed that Southern Baptists are the largest single group of sound soul winners left in the world. I have published sermons in THE SWORD OF THE LORD by Southern Baptist leaders. Southern Baptist leaders have helped with the Sword Book Club, have spoken on Sword conference programs. In 1935 I openly broke with Dr. J. Frank Norris, not because he fought in defense of the faith, but because I was convinced that he was not always as scrupulously honest in his statements and as Christian in his attitude as I felt he ought to be toward other good Christians. Some years ago I wrote an editorial in THE SWORD OF THE LORD urging Baptist people in the South, as far as they could conscientiously do so, to co-operate with Southern Baptist associations and conventions, designating their gifts to sound causes.

I say the above so that no one can say that I am an enemy of Southern Baptists, that I am attacking the Southern Baptist Seminary, or that I am gossiping. The simple and sad fact is that the Southern Baptist Seminary at Louisville has for years laid itself open to criticism by Bible-believers again and again by its official attitude toward some vital doctrines, by its employment of teachers, in its bringing in of speakers who were not always true to the Bible. I want to document this statement as briefly as I can.

1. In 1922 Dr. John R. Sampey, who was first teacher and then president of the seminary, wrote a historical digest of the books of the Old Testament for the *System Bible Study*. In his discussion of the creation in Genesis, Dr. Sampey made the following remark-

able statement which I quote from page 51 of the *System Bible Study*:

"The fact that the creation of the sun is placed in the fourth day is proof that we do not have in this chapter a strictly scientific account of the events sketched; for no modern scientist would place the creation of the sun after that of the earth. While the scientist must admire much in this sketch of the creative process as anticipating some of the views of modern students of nature, he would not interpret the Hebrew story as a cold and scientifically accurate account of the order of events. It is a popular account with the emphasis on the religious element, attention being drawn to the Divine activity throughout the story. The long creative process is compressed within the limits of a week of days. The author evidently wished to put emphasis on the observance of the Sabbath."

Dr. Sampey was a good man, a truly converted and godly man. But he was wrong on the inspiration of the Bible. He was wrong in believing the false and unproven theory of evolution instead of the plain statements of the Bible. He says that the book of Genesis is not scientifically accurate, that "no modern scientist would place the creation of the sun after that of the earth." He says that the scientist "would not interpret the Hebrew story as a cold and scientifically accurate account of the order of events." Well, Genesis is scientifically accurate. And the evolutionists and Dr. Sampey were wrong.

2. In the same book, Dr. A. T. Robertson wrote the digest on New Testament books and on page 68 of the *System Bible Study* Dr. Robertson, a devoted good man, shows that he was misled by the modernists in their approach to the synoptic gospels. He accepted the idea that Matthew, Mark and Luke all copied from an imaginary "Q" manuscript, and all had a human authorship, with some divine supervision, instead of being given, directly, by divine inspiration. There Dr. Robertson says:

"It is certain that the first Gospel was written after the Gospel of Mark, since it makes use of it."

He accepts the secondhand tradition of Papias, "that Matthew wrote the Logia or Sayings of Jesus in Hebrew (Aramaic), and that each one translated as he was able."

In view of such repeated statements by leaders of the Louisville Seminary, it is not surprising that those who believe in the plenary and verbal inspiration of the Bible should be sensitive about the orthodoxy of the Southern Baptist Seminary.

3. About twenty years ago Dr. Weatherspoon, of the Southern Seminary put out a book on the Bible. It was reviewed favorably in Moody Monthly by Dr. Clarence T. Benson, then of the Moody Bible Institute faculty. However, this book took an unorthodox position about the verbal inspiration of the Bible. I wrote Dr. James M. Gray, the distinguished president of Moody Bible Institute. He checked the book, found that it did not hold the evangelical and orthodox position on inspiration, and took the matter up with Dr. Benson. Dr. Benson then explained that Dr. Weatherspoon had agreed to revise the offensive chapter on inspiration in succeeding editions of the book. I did not follow through, I do not know the rest of the story; whether the book was revised or not. I know it was offensive to Bible-believers then, and not orthodox on the matter of inspiration as fundamental, Bible-believers regard orthodoxy, as Dr. James M. Gray and other conservatives regard orthodoxy.

4. Some years ago a noble pastor of a strong church in Louisville was greatly distressed at what he regarded as false teaching in the seminary, and he said he had definite proof, textbooks and students' notes, etc. He was a fully cooperative Southern Baptist. A committee was appointed to investigate, but simply came out with a report that everything was okay, without giving a detailed report. I think they ought to have seen

(Continued on page 11)

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Dr. Bob Jones Says:

It is every Christian's duty to be a good witness for the Lord Jesus Christ, but we tell our Bob Jones University students that they have responsibilities that go beyond just witnessing. Paul said that he was all things to all men that by all means he might win some of them. Paul was able to move in all circles and be at ease. He used his culture and training for a contact; but when he made the contact, he then witnessed for Christ and appealed to sinners to be saved. It is sometimes very hard to witness in some circles for Jesus, but it is much easier to say, "I am trusting Jesus as my Saviour," than it is to say, "Won't you trust Him, too?" I do, not mean by this that it is the responsibility of every Christian in every circle on every occasion to set up "a mourner's bench" and call sinners to get down and repent. Everything is to be done

calmly and in order. I do mean that whenever the opportunity comes, every Christian should not only witness for Jesus but should try to get other people reconciled to God. Now, that is the emphasis we give in Bob Jones University. We give music, speech, and art without additional cost above academic tuition. Any student can take piano, voice, pipe organ, speech, etc., and it will not cost him one cent for instruction above the regular tuition. This is not easy to do because it costs money to do it, and it takes great effort to train enough teachers or get enough teachers of the right kind. But here is what happens: When our students leave Bob Jones University, they can move in all circles and be at ease. It does not mean that they are all scholars because a person cannot become a great scholar in four years or six years or seven years or even longer. About all a college can do in four years is to discover a few who have an aptitude for scholarship. Comparatively speaking, there are not many great scholars in the world. Our Bob Jones University academic standards in the fields of our emphasis are as high as any other institution's and higher than some of them. But Bob Jones University is primarily a Christian training center. Now, this does not mean that it is not an educational center. We have the largest Future Teachers of America chapter in the United States. Three years ago it became the National Banner Chapter. Our students take the National Teacher Examinations and the Graduate Record Examination. They make outstanding records in all the tests they have to meet. But our students taking teacher training are becoming school teachers not just to teach and make money but to be good witnesses and soul winners for the Lord Jesus Christ. The same is true of our preachers and ministerial students and the students who will enter the busi-

ness world as well as all the other fields of service. The "old-time religion" and the discipline and the down-to-the-earth, practical Christian philosophy with the tremendous evangelistic emphasis given at Bob Jones University are producing results in training not only Christian leaders, but Christian leaders who are soul winners.

Since Bob Jones University is so individualistic, it is very hard for some people to understand where we are going, what our emphasis is, and what we are up to. We will tell you. The University that I founded believes it is every Christian's business to win people to the Lord, and we teach all of our students to do this job. Now, you Christian people can help us with this work. Remember, we have asked you over and over again to do just three things for us, and notice the order:

First: Pray daily for the school. It is always a temptation to let up, to slow down, to appease, to compromise. We are not going to surrender. We are going to keep our high academic standards, but we are going to keep our "old-time, mourner's bench religion," and we are going to keep on keeping on emphasizing that a Christian's first business in this world is not just to get a job but that a job is incidental to his main business, which is winning souls to the Lord Jesus Christ. Bob Jones University was founded by an evangelist and was born in a revival, and there has never been a year of its history that there has not been a continual revival. And remember, a revival is not a revival that does not make Christian people win souls to the Lord Jesus Christ.

Second: We are trying harder year by year to select students who either have an affinity for or who can cultivate an affinity for the type training we give. Certainly we want young people to measure up scholastically, but above all, we want young people in Bob Jones University who can be trained to be great Christian witnesses and also great soul winners in whatever field they may serve when their work is finished at the University. Please help us select these students. Remember that we cannot supply the demand for pastor's assistants, musicians, school teachers, and Christian workers in so many fields.

Third: Please ask God if He wouldn't like to have you invest some money in the work of Bob Jones University. We have nobody back of us except our Lord and folks that love Him and who know what we are doing and who help us financially. You can help us. How about doing it? Let us hear from you. Thank you. God bless you.

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Nels Ferre, An Infidel . . .

(Continued from page 10)

and heard all the evidence, and made it public. If the evidence cleared the seminary, well and good. If the evidence did not clear the seminary, then no one else had a right to clear it. But it is significant that the charges of modernistic teaching were made by honest, good, proven men, and the incidents which led them to believe the seminary was essentially wrong ought to have been explained satisfactorily, or ought to have been renounced, in my judgment.

5. I have before me the book by Raymond A. Waugh, *The Mythical Book of the Southern Baptist Seminary*. Here are 150 pages by a man who was well trained, who had a good background, who did the seminary class work, and had a chance to know what was taught. I think the book is poorly written. I think that not all the charges are substantiated. I do not believe that the inferences drawn are always correct. I do not believe that the book is adequate. But when all is said and done, it still remains that Mr. Waugh has given some detailed and documented statements from professors and from textbooks that ought to seriously disturb those of us who wish the Southern Baptist Seminary well. I do not believe that all the seminary professors are infidels, and I do not believe that the language of Mr. Waugh's book is as temperate and as restrained, nor his judgment as unbiased, as they ought to be. But there is too much evidence for me not to believe that there is a serious slipping away from evangelical truth among the professors in the Louisville Seminary, and in the kind of speakers that are brought there.

6. I have before me a copy of a

letter by a scholarly young minister who did work in the Louisville Seminary in 1948 and 1949. This man, now a graduate assistant in a great university, a modest, spiritual man, in restrained and factual language, says that Dr. T. C. Smith in the seminary,

"openly questioned the virgin birth and stated that there was no direct evidence against the doctrine at the moment, but we should not be disturbed if some scholar in the future upsets it because belief in the virgin birth is not an essential item of Christian faith. He then went on to give the stock literal argument that Matthew quotes from the Septuagint which mistranslates the Hebrew word meaning simply a young woman and not a virgin . . . Later on when some one asked him if he believed in the inspiration of the New Testament, he replied by asking the student what he meant by inspiration, and then he asked if the student regarded himself as inspired when he preached. In just that same way, concluded the professor, I regard the inspiration of the New Testament. Just as we preachers are often wrong in some of our statements and ideas, so the New Testament writers often were wrong in some things because of their first century outlook."

This student then talked to Dr. Smith personally about the matter. He says, "Of course, I am not quoting the professor's words verbatim, but I am giving the substance. I am sure I did not misunderstand because I made an A in the course all three quarters."

Further instances of serious teaching about the inspiration and reliability of the Bible are given in this letter.

This student talked with Dr. Fuller. He did not make trouble in classes. He did not attack the seminary. He has never published a word about the seminary. I do not give his name because I have not asked his permission to publish it, but he says, "Now, in my interview with Dr. Fuller, the former president, he assured me beyond question that he himself was conservative in his theology, but he told me quite frankly that he wanted 'to keep peace in the family' and not let these sordid things get out and cause a lot of trouble."

I think this shows that the seminary has not done what it ought to do to put itself right, and to prove itself orthodox and reliable. I assure you that I have had many such inklings of false teaching in the Southern Baptist Seminary.

7. Before me is a letter from a Louisville preacher, widely known and respected. He says, "Get, at once, Nels F. S. Ferre's *Faith and Reason*, which is now a textbook in Southern Baptist Seminary. It was written and published before 1947, and it is now a textbook. Get *Goodspeed's Introduction to the New Testament*, now a textbook here in that department."

I have before me Ferre's book on *Faith and Reason*. If Ferre's book is now a textbook in the Southern Baptist Seminary, five years after he brought his infidelity there in the Gay Lectures, then all defense of the seminary's relationship to Ferre is useless.

Goodspeed's Introduction to the New Testament is widely known. The viewpoint is out-and-out modernistic. If it is a textbook in the Southern Baptist Seminary, then that fact is, it seems to me, inexcusable. If the Louisville preacher is mistaken about this matter, it would be very easy to be corrected. If these textbooks by modernists are used, then the seminary should immediately put them out and confess its wrong in the matter, so good Christians can trust their orthodoxy, in my judgment.

The defection of the Southern Baptist Seminary on fundamental doctrine has been so widely known that Dr. W. B. Riley told me before his death that the Southern Baptist Seminary had gone too far to be won back to fundamental ranks of Bible-believers. He was such a noble, honest, good man, so brotherly and cooperative with Christians, that his opinion is of the greatest importance.

Dear Brother Hause, I am glad to publish your letter and further

Fatal Carelessness

(Continued from page 1)

gathered up again. Yesterday's hours are spilt and gone! Fatal carelessness!

But, time dies for the sinner as well as for the saint! You who are unsaved should be reminded that time lost, like water spilt on the ground, cannot be gathered up again! God says, "Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth, while the evil days come not, nor the years draw nigh, when thou shalt say, I have no pleasure in them" (Eccles. 12:1). "Now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation" (II Cor. 6:2).

The caverns of Hell ring with the wails and moans of multitudes who would give a million worlds for just one of the "NOWS" which you folk here tonight enjoy! God declares, "It is of the Lord's mercies that we are not consumed, because his compassions fail not" (Lam. 3:22). That means you are still alive today because of the sheer mercy of God. That near-accident was not a tragedy because God spared you! Your recovery from that sick-bed was because God loved you and, in mercy, has again given you space to repent! "The Lord is . . . not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance" (II Pet. 3:9). What is this that you people have here tonight? *An hour of precious time! Drink deeply of it, my friend, for time, like water spilt on the ground, cannot be gathered up again!*

Be not like Felix, the governor, who, when Paul preached to him, said, "Go thy way for this time; when I have a convenient season, I will call for thee" (Acts 24:25). Paul thundered to him about righteousness, temperance, and judgment to come (what a tremendous sermon outline!) and the Bible says, "Felix trembled . . ."; he was terrified with conviction, but he said, "Go thy way for this time"! And that time was "spilt" and gone! So far as we know, there is no record that Felix was ever saved. Fatal carelessness!

Be not like the two young ladies I heard an eastern evangelist tell about. They stood and snickered on the street corner of a great city on Saturday night as an eager, bright-faced group of young people stood giving their testimonies and singing the blessed hymns of salvation. A Christian young person went over to these smartly-dressed girls in their late teens and offered them a gospel tract and asked if they could talk to them about salvation. The two girls laughed and hurried on down the street, ridiculing these "street-preaching fanatics." They walked one block and crossed the street, another block and they stepped down off the curb to cross again and—suddenly!—they were struck by a speeding taxicab, dragged along the pavement and hurled out into eternity!

facts about Dr. Ferre, and those who have befriended him in the past. If Louisville Seminary will give a detailed answer about whether any of Ferre's books are now textbooks, whether *Goodspeed's Introduction to the New Testament* is a text now, whether the seminary has openly and officially changed its policy about having modernists as speakers, and books by modernists as textbooks, etc., I shall be glad to publish it in THE SWORD. All of us, I hope, want the truth, and we want to be kind about it. But honest Christian people ought not to give a dime to support any place which is believed to support modernism in any wise. And every Christian institution, including THE SWORD OF THE LORD, Christian colleges, Bible schools, seminaries, and mission boards, are under holy obligation to prove themselves sound in the faith and true to the essential doctrines of Christianity. THE SWORD OF THE LORD would not be worthy of the support of Christian people if it did not give such abundant evidence. I am glad to give it about THE SWORD OF THE LORD. Officials at every Christian institution ought to be glad and able to give overwhelming proof of its orthodoxy and spiritual soundness, if it really is sound.

In the Saviour's name, yours,
John R. Rice

The glass slips and time splashes out into eternity! It works like this: The little child says "There's plenty of time, I'm young yet; Mother says I'm not old enough to know what I'm doing; there's plenty of time!" See the same child later in his tender teens; he's busy with school, with pleasure, with athletics now, "There's plenty of time!" Then in his tempestuous twenties, marriage, a whirl of social events, the excitement of a career begun, "There's plenty of time!" See the same man in his tired thirties, cares have begun to line the face, too busy now for religion, "There's plenty of time!" In his feverish forties, gray hairs beginning to appear, troubles mount, but, "There's plenty of time!" In his frantic fifties, "Plenty of time!" In his sinking sixties, "Plenty of time!" And then, talk to a tired old man in his solemn seventies, trembling on his cane as he totters on the very brink of eternity, and, "There's plenty of time!" But suddenly there is a slip of the glass, and CRASH! Out into the blackness of eternal despair rushes this soul to meet God! Fatal carelessness!

Time flies! The last letter of time is the first letter of eternity! I have read of a woman who was in a jam and needed a lawyer. She was not worried a bit for she knew a very competent attorney who was a past master at this kind of a case. She knew he could win for her. She kept putting off going to see him. Then, one day, the time of her trial fast approaching, she went to his office. He was no longer a lawyer; he had become a judge! He said, "I'm sorry lady; had you come to me sooner I could have defended you; now I can only judge you!"

And so it will be for many of you who keep procrastinating about this matter of choosing Jesus as your Saviour and Lord! One day He will have to say, "I could have saved you and defended you had you come to me sooner, but now, on this side of the grave, I can only be a judge!" Oh! fearful moment, and all because of fatal carelessness!

Opportunities So Die

Opportunities, like water spilt on the ground, cannot be gathered up again! God says, "As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good . . ." (Gal. 6:10). Football games are won, oftentimes, because of opportunities grasped, a pass intercepted, a fumble recovered, and suddenly defeat is turned into victory! Some skirmishes were won in the Pacific during the war because our men, trained and alert, took advantage of opportunities! But, oh, opportunities pass away, and like water spilt on the ground, cannot be gathered up again!

I held a revival in the Warrington Baptist Church at Pensacola several years ago. There were thousands of lost people about us in the Warrington and Navy Point area, most of them navy people. The pastor and I visited many homes. God began to awaken hearts. People got under conviction. We had some cottage prayer meetings in some of the homes. A number of those fine young couples said, "We're coming out to hear you preach."

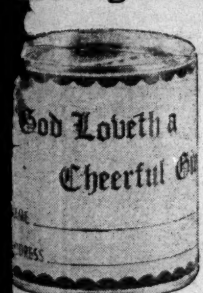
That night (a Tuesday night) there was a fine crowd, nearly a full house. A few came forward to be saved, a good many raised their hands for prayer, mostly navy men and their wives. That night, at the door, many of them told the pastor, "We're coming back; we're thinking about salvation. We intend to do something about it; you can be sure we'll come back!"

But the next morning the front page headlines screamed "Hurricane Roars Toward Pensacola!" It was several hundred miles away, but that afternoon when the pastor and I went to the home where we were to have a prayer meeting and talk to the people about Christ, the windows were boarded up and the people gone. We visited other homes where the people had been under conviction. Suddenly relatives in Alabama had taken on a strange fascination for many people. Others were boarding up

(Continued on page 12)

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Fatal Carelessness

(Continued from page 11)

their windows, getting oil in lamps, buying up canned foods, getting ready for the big blow!

That night, though one could only feel slight winds, the crowd at the church was almost entirely made up of Christians. The next night the storm had come and gone, without a whole lot of damage. We met by candlelight because the electricity was off. A little handful of faithful Christians paddled through the puddles to get there. The sinners who had been so under conviction had boarded up windows against a tropical storm but left their souls unprotected against the storm of God's awful wrath against sin! God had awakened their interest, conviction had been wrought, but the opportunity was gone!

Now you have opportunity as never before! God is working on hearts. Oh, Christian, what is this that you have here? A golden opportunity! Make the most of it, my friends, for opportunities, like water spilt on the ground, cannot be gathered again! You may have another opportunity—you may not! But one thing is sure: you will never have the same opportunity again.

King Agrippa heard the mighty Apostle Paul give his stirring conversion testimony. Agrippa could have been saved. He had the opportunity; but he said, "Almost thou persuadest me to be a Christian." And, "Almost is but to fail, almost cannot avail, sad, sad, that bitter wail. Almost, but lost!" Opportunities wasted, like water spilt on the ground, cannot be gathered again!

What an opportunity Judas had. He ate at the table with Jesus; he slept by the side of Christ. He heard the wonderful words of life fall from the lips of Christ. Probably he intended one day to repent, to trust the Saviour he professed to believe in; but he let opportunity after opportunity slip by and never repented. Out into the night of endless despair went Judas, another illustration. Every opportunity gone forever.

One Monday morning when I was pastor in a small town in central Florida, I received a frantic phone call. The body of a young man, newly married, had just been pulled from a lake. They had moved to our town a few weeks before. Some of our members had invited them to church. I had not yet met the couple. When I arrived at the humble little house, the young widow was tearing her hair and crying. Her husband had been fishing; there was an accident and he fell into the water while other men in the party were just around the bend of the lake, out of sight because of big cypress trees. It was a cold morning for Florida, and just after daybreak. There was a splash and they heard the young man scream out. One man said he heard him cry, "O God, save my soul!" Then there was a gurgling sound. They found his body with his legs all chewed up. Evidently, a big gator had gotten him. His wife cried and said, "O Preacher, we had planned to come to your church. We had said we were going to have a Christian home. We knew we ought to get saved, but we just kept letting the opportunity go by!"

Oh, opportunity! Many a person has said, or has thought, "If I just had that opportunity again!" But opportunities gone are gone forever. You may have another, but you'll never have the same opportunity again!

Mr. Spurgeon told of a drunk who always came home intoxicated. His wife and daughter, sick of his indulgence, had given him up as a hopeless case. They always left a candle burning for him at the front door so that he could tell he was at the right house when he staggered home and so that he could find his way up to the door and inside. One night he tottered home unusually inebriated. He was staggering violently and seeing double. He saw the candle burning and thought he saw two candles burning. He said, "Oh, the fools, they've left two candles and I only need one. I'll blow one of them out!" "Pooof." He blew the one candle out and found himself in total darkness!

Hear me! Some of you have this candle of opportunity burning and the Devil is whispering to you: "Don't let that preacher get you excited; you don't need to hurry. You'll have other opportunities." But if you refuse Christ tonight, you may never have another opportunity! Trust Jesus now, for opportunity, like water spilt on the ground, cannot be gathered up again.

"We Must Needs Die!"

But our text declares, "We must needs die, and are as water spilt on the ground, which cannot be gathered up again." God declares, "...it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment" (Heb. 9:27). Jesus said, "...what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?" (Mark 8:36). The writer of Hebrews cried, "It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God!" Amos, in the Old Testament, thundered, "Prepare to meet thy God!" Why? Because, "We must all needs die, and are as water spilt on the ground, which cannot be gathered up again!" "...in the place where the tree falleth, there it shall be" (Eccles. 11:3). So the transaction must be made this side of the grave. You must be saved while still in this life!

Appointed to die! You have an appointment with death! You may be able to break your appointment with a friend; you may be able to break an appointment with a dentist; you may be able to break an appointment with your wife or husband; but you cannot break your appointment with death! Death is the grim reaper with a skeleton key to fit every lock! He can slip into the millionaire's mansion or into the hut of squalor, and with certain accuracy seek you out and take you to your doom! You may cry, "I'm not ready yet!" But then it will be too late! Death is a universal assassin! "Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned" (Rom. 5:12). "...the wages of sin is death" (Rom. 6:23).

We must all needs die; so settle your eternal destiny now! Jesus died in your place, as a substitute for you! Receive the Saviour now before sin finds you out and death tracks you down! "How oft is the candle of the wicked put out! and how oft cometh their destruction upon them! God distributeth sorrows in his anger" (Job 21:17). Oh, trust Jesus tonight! Ungatherable soul, unretainable soul, unredeemable soul, (if you go out into eternity lost), "we must needs die, and are as water spilt on the ground, which cannot be gathered up again!"

A seventeen-year-old girl, newly married, shot a man to death at the top of a stair over in Pennsylvania. She whimpered later that she had no idea she would ever be guilty of murder! But she fooled around with drinking, dancing, profane men and ended up a murderess, declared guilty! Sin always pays off sooner or later in death. The physical death, yes, and then too, the horrible second death, the banishment of your soul, your very life, from the presence of God in Hell forever!

The poet Longfellow was right when he said,

*Life is real, life is earnest,
And the grave is not the goal;
Dust thou art, to dust returnest,
Was not spoken of the soul!*

Once when I was pastor of Brent Baptist Church, Pensacola, Florida, the lights went out during Training Union on Sunday evening. There was a power failure, (that was not the first power failure in our Training Union!) and the lights were out all over the neighborhood. They were still out when the time came for the Sunday night preaching service. Our faithful deacons had found a couple of lamps and a number of candles. The lamps were placed, one on the piano, and the other back near the door at the vestibule. Candles were placed on the window sills down the sides of the auditorium. A candle was placed on the side of my pulpit so that I could see to read the Scriptures. The crowds came despite the darkness. As the

song leader led the congregation in the great old gospel hymns, I noticed a moth flying around the candle there on my pulpit. He would fly close to the flame and then fly away again. Then he was back again, swerving in close to the flame as if he would fly right into it, and then, banking and veering off again. Then he would play around over the top of the flame. I thought, "If that fool moth doesn't quit flirting with that fire, I'm going to have a good illustration for a sermon!" And sure enough, I didn't see the tragedy when it happened, but, when I got up to preach, I glanced down and there was the corpse, just one wing and part of his body exposed! The rest of him was buried under hot melted tallow! He had come too close to the flame! He played with fire and lost his life!

And, when people go on in sin, sooner or later death catches up with them! "Can one go upon hot coals, and his feet not be burned?" (Prov. 6:28). Remember, "...be sure your sin will find you out" (Num. 32:23). "All have sinned," the Bible declares!

Death catches up with young people. In a town where I was once pastor, a fifteen-year-old girl sat in school one day and picked at a pimple on her forehead. The next day when she came to school, she had a red, ugly swollen spot on her forehead. Later in the day she complained of a headache, said she felt sick, and the teacher sent her home. The next day she died! It was just that quick! Two days later I stood by the walkway of a little church as youthful pallbearers bore her coffin down the walk to the hearse. Many school mates of hers lined the walk. I heard one girl sob, "To think that just three days ago she sat by my side in school!" Oh, it can happen so suddenly, so unexpectedly!

In Washington, D. C., a man boarded a bus one night. It was late at night and freezing cold. The buses were not running so often in the residential areas that late at night. He shivered as he boarded the bus and with chattering teeth said, "I think if you had come a minute later I'd have died from the cold!" And with that he fell dead on the bus! Earlier that evening he had no idea that he would, that night, board the bus for eternity!

In a city where I once lived, three people were sitting in their living room one cool evening; father, mother and one child. The next day neighbors found them still sitting there, cold in death. Gas had escaped so slowly they had not even known they were about to die! I told this incident in a revival down in Bartow, Florida, a few weeks ago. After the service a man came up to me and asked if the family I mentioned had such and such a name and if the tragedy occurred in such and such a city. I answered "yes" to both questions. And then he told me that he had known that family, that he had pled with that husband and father about his soul but that he had scoffed at the idea of needing salvation. He said that all of the family were professed infidels. One other brother, an infidel, had committed suicide, and now this brother and his family had gone out into eternity without preparing to meet God! Fatal carelessness!

I once talked to a man about his soul. Some of the members of his family were saved and belonged to my church. But he said, "Preacher, you can't rush me into this thing. God can save me in His own good time. When God wants to save me, He knows where to find me..." etc., etc." In a barber shop a few Saturday nights later a deacon spoke to him about coming to hear the Gospel and about making a decision for Christ. He took the crowded barber shop as a good place to "blow off," so he began his recitation, "Now, the way I look at it is..." and finished up with, "God knows how to save me without your help. He knows where to find me when He wants me!"

God knew where to find him all right! The following week one of my deacons came by to take me over to the home of this man. He had been found in his bed that morning rigid in death! He foolishly had waited about salvation until it was too late! God says, "How shall we escape, if we neg-

lect so great salvation?" (Heb. 2:3).

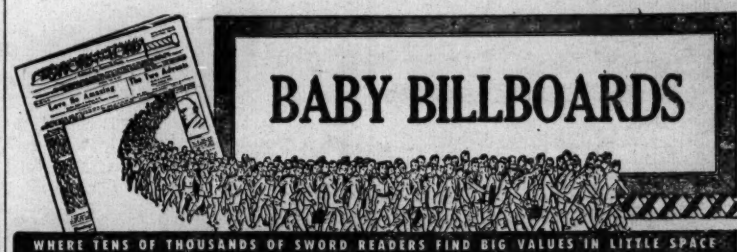
*I played with my blocks
I was but a child,
Houses I builded, castles I piled;
But they tumbled and fell
All my labor was vain,
Yet my father said kindly:
"We'll try it again!"*

*I played with my days,
"What's time to a lad?
Why pore over books?
Play! and play, and be glad!"
Till my youth was all spent,
Like a sweet summer rain,
Yet my father said kindly:
"We'll try it again!"*

*I played with my chance,
Such gifts as were mine
To work with, to win with,
To serve the Divine,
I seized for myself,
For myself they have lain,
Yet my father said kindly:
"We'll try it again!"*

*I played with my soul,
The soul that is I;
The best that is in me,
I smothered its cry,
I lulled it, I dulled it—
And now, Oh, the pain!
Yet my father says kindly:
"We'll try it again!"*

—Robert Freeman



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